

## **The Induction Period at NIH**

During this period (which should be scheduled during August/September), the PhD supervisors will be expected to help the student write a short research proposal (maximum of 5 pages) describing the project and to prepare a brief timeline for where and when the research will be carried out. This time will also be a great opportunity to familiarize the student with NIH, meet up with the others on this PhD program and make any further arrangements as necessary. There will be Graduate Partnerships Program (GPP) seminars and events for the student to attend culminating in an Induction Ceremony in September that occurs jointly with the NIH-Oxford/Cambridge PhD Program.

Once the student accepts the award, the student should contact the NIH-Oxford-Cambridge Scholars Program office and the NIH supervisor's Administrative Officer (AO) as soon as possible in order to begin processing the paperwork for the appropriate visa. The visa application will be processed by the NIH Division of International Services (<http://dis.ors.od.nih.gov/>) via the NIH mentor's AO who will be able to give the student the necessary contact details (or indeed make the initial arrangements) and will ensure this all goes smoothly. Before contacting DIS, the student should register as an individual agreement student with the Graduate Partnerships Program (GPP) via their website (<http://gpp.nih.gov/Prospective/IndividualPartnerships/AppInfoCurrent.htm>). It is a simple registration, not an application. The student will also get advice and help to find accommodation, both for the induction period and also in the long-term. The student's stipend will cover accommodation. The hiring mechanism under which the NIH supervisor brings the student on during the induction period may vary from Institute to Institute, and the AO will help organize this. After that, while the student remains at the NIH, the Visiting pre-doc Intramural Research Training Award (IRTA) mechanism is employed.