

Ruth Cameron University Professor

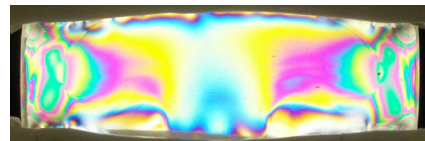
I am joint director of the Cambridge Centre for Medical Materials, a team of about 30 PhD students and post doctoral researchers working on materials for implantation within the body. These include bone regenerating materials, spinal disc and cartilage replacements, nerve guides and artificial breast tissue to test new cancer drugs.



I took my degree and PhD in Physics at Cambridge followed by two years further research as a post doc and a college research fellow. I then obtained a University lectureship in Materials and became a fellow of Lucy Cavendish College in Cambridge.

I enjoy asking questions, following up ideas and seeing progress made in areas I believe are important. I also enjoy working with outstanding students and researchers, collaborating with scientists and surgeons from wide ranging disciplines, and working in partnership with industrial leaders in the field. Companies we work with include those spun out from research in the group. I currently work 4 days a week, an arrangement that has been in place since I returned from maternity leave in 2001 after the birth of my first child. I now have two young children and have found the University's flexibility in allowing me to work part time for a while, invaluable in combining my career with family life. In the long-term I expect to return to full-time employment.

The picture shows a section of a prototype artificial spinal disc, photographed under stress and through crossed polars to illustrate regions of constant strain. (Courtesy Jessica Gwynne, PhD student in CCMM).



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