Hello and Welcome...

To the beginning of a new academic year and to the second edition of the WHRI newsletter. A bi-monthly bulletin that seeks to keep staff updated on current events from across the institute.

This month we welcome back Dr Jesmond Dalli (WHRI Alumnus), new Senior Lecturer, to lead the QMUL Metabolipidomics Unit. Jesmond is also recipient of a highly prestigious Sir Henry Dale Fellowship of the Wellcome Trust. The Lipidomics Unit is being installed in the Genome Centre (1st floor; special thanks to Dr Steven Coppen who was instrumental for setting the Unit). Jesmond is affiliated to BioPharm.

Publications of Note


Images from around the institute

"Building a hypothalamic-pituitary axis, what β-catenin has to do with it"
Green - beta-catenin, red - Sox9. Stain performed on embryonic progenitor stem cells. Authors, Maria Lilliana Vignola & Valeria Scagliotti. Image submitted by Carles Gaston-Massuet

Grants & Awards of Note

Dr Carles Gaston-Massuet & Fernando Jimenez (Endocrinology). Received a Marie Curie-Co Fund post-doctoral training Fellowship (~£70,000). Awarded to research "Molecular target therapies for craniopharyngioma"

Professor Ken Suzuki (TMT). Obtained a QMI Proof-of Concept Fund (£40,000), to identify a novel biological drug for the prevention of postsurgical adhesion

Dr Qingzhong Xiao (Clin Pharm). Awarded a BHF Project Grant (£237,031). Started 1st September 2015, duration three years

Dr Michele Bombardieri (EMR). Received a MRC project grant to "Investigate the pathogenic role of T follicular helper cells and their therapeutic targeting in primary Sjogren's syndrome" (£385,169), duration three years

Professor Tim Warner & Dr Magdi Yaqoob (TMT). Awarded a BHF Project Grant to support Dr Melissa Chan researching “Platelet response phenotyping to improve anti-thrombotic therapy” (£217,121) Started June
Upcoming Events

The 27th annual UK cell adhesion society meeting

‘Adhesive Interactions in Health and Disease’,

To be held on the 24th September at Birmingham University the event includes talks from 4 guest speakers, a series of short talks and a poster session. (This event has been jointly organised by Birmingham University and QMUL). For more information and booking click [here](#)

The London Matrix Group Autumn Symposium

‘Basement membranes: Roles in Development and Disease’

This free event takes place on the 8th of October and will be held in the Derek Willoughby lecture theatre. To book click [here](#)

Congratulations

To Andrew Leese who was awarded his PhD June 17th

To Andrew Vaughan and Matthew Golding who were both nominated for the Professional Services ‘Going the Extra Mile’ award

To Dr Carles Gaston-Massuet; in addition to recently being promoted to Senior Lecturer he has also been invited to give a plenary lecture at the International conference for the European Society of Paediatric Endocrinology

To Dr's Claudio Mauro, Paula Longhi, Marika Charalambous & Leonardo Guasti, all of whom have also been promoted to Senior Lecturer
New WHRI Members

**TMT**

Research fellow Dr Masaru Ishida. Who recently started work in Ken Suzuki’s lab

PhD-student Miss Sura Al-Zoubi. A pharmacist from Jordan, who started early this September.

**Endocrinology**

This October James Nichols, will be starting an MRC-PhD Studentship, supervised by Carles Gaston-Massuet, titled “The role of pituitary stem cells in development and tumorigenesis”

**Microvascular Research**

On the 1st September Dr Sian Henson will start at the centre as a Senior Lecturer.

On the 14th September Dr Katja Kostelnik will start as a Post-Doctoral Research Associate in the group of Dr Tom Nightingale.

Students from the MRes in Inflammation: Cellular and Vascular Aspects will soon be joining labs within the WHRI to start their PhDs.

The students are Anna Barkaway (supervisor Sussan Noursharg), Olga Giannakopoulou (supervisor Panos Deloukas), Claire MacDougall (supervisor Claudio Mauro), Federica Filomena (supervisors Amrita Ahluwalia & Mike Curtis -Dentistry), Grace Salsbury (supervisors Steve Harmer & Paul Chapple) and Elanor Ward (supervisor Federica Marelli-Berg).

Funding is from BHF, MRC and the college.
WHRI Alumni

TMT

Dr Manabu Shiraishi who will be taking up a clinical post in Japan

Dr Prashant Rachaya who will be returning to Sao Paulo State university

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If there's something you would like included in next month's newsletter please send an email to Samuel Brod at s.brod@qmul.ac.uk

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