Hello and Welcome...

to the 9th WHRI Newsletter. In this issue, we will be looking forward to our Annual Reviews of Teaching and Research, looking back on another amazing WHRI contribution to Pint of Science, saying some sad farewells, and a unique accolade for one member of the WHRI staff, plus catching up with all the events and good news since January.

WHRI ANNUAL REVIEW 2017

This year we will be celebrating the WHRI efforts both in Research and Teaching.

On Thursday the 6th of July, for the first time, the William Harvey Research Institute will host an Education half day at the Derek Willoughby Lecture Theatre. The aim is to introduce a fresh spotlight on Education as part of the WHRI annual review 2017.

On Friday the 7th of July, we will focus on the WHRI research activities.

Keynote Speakers include:
Ian MacIntyre Award for Excellence in Endocrinology

Professor Ashley Grossman
Emeritus Professor of Endocrinology
University of Oxford

Derek Willoughby Medal Lecture

Professor Iain McInnes
Director of the Institute of Infection, Immunity & Inflammation
University of Glasgow

Sir John Vane Medal Lecture

Professor Bruce Cronstein
Paul R. Esserman Professor of Medicine
New York University

This will be followed by the William Harvey Summer party, featuring a BBQ, Paella and a band.

Grants & Awards of Note

A new grant from Siemens awarded over 5 years to Advanced Cardiovascular Imaging, and a grant from HeartFlow awarded for this year to Francesca Pugliese.

Drs Metherell and Prasad (Endocrinology) have been awarded £318K from Barts and the London Charity to investigate the role of the sphingolipid pathway in the pathogenesis of adrenal insufficiency.

Alex Da Costa (Endocrinology) has been awarded a MRC Fellowship grant (Helen Storr PI) Clinical Research Training Fellowship entitled "Modelling the molecular pathogenesis of triple A syndrome (AAAS) with iPS-derived neurons and adrenocortical cells"

Claudio Mauro (Endocrinology) has been awarded a 2 year extension to his BHF Research Fellowship Grant.

Sadani Cooray (Biocem Pharm) has received a QMUL nomination for a National Teaching Fellowship Scheme Award (1 of only 3 nominations from QMUL).


Rachael Tan & Carles Gaston-Massuet (Endocrinology) MRC Clinical Fellowship: Understanding the oncogenic mediated pro-inflammatory environment in stem cell driven tumours £278,638

BHF Infrastructure Grant toward the purchase of a Multiphoton confocal microscopic platform dedicated to in vivo (and in vitro) live cell imagining. This will be housed at the WHRI and available for use by all researchers within SMD and beyond. Amount > £300,000. Applicants: Sussan Nourshargh, Mathieu-Benoit Voisin, Andy Tinker, Federica Marelli-Berg and David Kelsell.

Publications of Note


Duncan E.J, Chapple J.P., (Endocrinology) "Altered organisation of the intermediate filament cytoskeleton and relocalisation of proteostasis modulators in cells lacking the ataxia protein sacsin" Hum. Mol. Genet. (June 2017)


Dalli J. (Biochem Pharm) "Does promoting resolution instead of inhibiting inflammation represent the new paradigm in treating infections?" Mol Aspects Med. (Mar 2017)

Gobbetti T, Perretti M. (Biochem Pharm) "Protectin D1n-3 DPA and resolvin
D5n-3 DPA are effectors of intestinal protection." Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. (Mar 2017)


Congratulations

Gareth Purvis (TMT) was awarded the 'Research Recognition Award of the American Physiological Society - Renal Section' for his work on annexin in diabetes, at the APS conference in Chicago.

Noriaki Yamada has been awarded a Travel Award from the (American) Shock Society and Lukas Martin was awarded the Inaugural Irshad Chaudry Award of the (American) Shock Society (Both TMT, and below).

Li Chan (Endocrinology) was invited to join the Department of Comparative Medicine at Yale School of Medicine, Yale University as a visiting Associate Professor (March-August 2017) and delivered a talk at the Yale Program in Integrative Cell Signaling and Neurobiology of Metabolism in April 2017.

Steffen Petersen (Advanced Cardiovascular Imaging) has been appointed as a member of BHF Project Grant Committee. He has has also been elected as Incoming Chair (2018-2020) for the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging’s Section Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance (EACVI-CMR Section) of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) which he will then lead as Chair from 2018-2020.

Valeria Scaglotti (Endocrinology) won a knock-out 3-minute research talk competition prize at ENDO 2017 in Orlando, US on April 1, 2017.

Tamara Girbl (CMR) who won the Young Investigator award of the European Society for Microcirculation at the ESM-EVBO Meeting, Geneva, 2017.

Samantha Arokiasamy (CMR) was awarded her PhD in May.

Dr Ioanna Ntalla (Clin Pharm) presented the “Discovery of novel loci for PR interval using 1000 Genomes imputation - an interim analysis” at the CHARGE (Cohorts for Heart
and Aging Research in Genetic Epidemiology) consortium meeting in New York, March 2017.”

**Dr Helen Warren** (Clin Pharm) received a CHARGE Travel Award (up to $2,500) to attend the CHARGE (Cohorts for Heart and Aging Research in Genetic Epidemiology) consortium meeting in New York, March 2017. She presented the “Discovery of five novel heart rate-associated loci using the Exome Chip”, and also presented work on blood pressure pharmacogenetics.”

**James Cartwright** (Clin Pharm) attended the Experimental Biology conference (22-26th April) in Chicago. His abstract was selected for oral presentation on work from his PhD describing the characterisation of genetic variants in ion channels and how they may cause stillbirth. He also received a small award of $150.

**Anna Barkaway** (CMR) won the best poster prize at the BMS/UKCAS meeting in Birmingham.

### Events and media appearances

Pint of Science ran on 15-17th May this year and brought researchers from QM into the pubs of London to describe their research to the general public in a fun and engaging way. If you attended Pint of Science this year, thank you! We really enjoyed having you join in on the discussions whilst sharing both pints and science with us. We held 12 events in pubs across London, all of which were sold out! This great achievement reflects the astounding research carried out at QM and the genuine interest people have in understanding what goes on in the lab. Pint of Science is a non-profit organisation run by volunteers, lots of which are from the WHRI: Giulia De Rossi (Microvascular), Samantha Arokiasamy (Microvascular), Anna Barkaway (Microvascular), Claire Macdougall (Biochem Pharm), Etty Maguire (Clin Pharm), Harriet Allan (TMT), Louise Topping (Biochem Pharm) and Melissa Hayman (TMT). We hope you enjoyed our events and continue to support us. See you next year!

Well done to the WHRI speakers, Tom Nightingale, Federica Marelli-Berg and Suchita Nadkarni, whose events were completely sold out!
Prof Atholl Johnson appeared on the BBC programme Ripoff Britain explaining how food can impact the results of a drugs test.

Prof Maralyn Druce (Endocrinology) spoke on the BBC World Service Business Daily programme on 10th of May to explain why Vitamin D is a hormone.

**New WHRI Members**

Dr David Collier has been appointed as Research Assistant in the Korbunits group (Endocrinology).

Miriam Cantos and Dominika Greszcik join the centre for Endocrinology to begin their PhD studentships as part of the Tribbles Research and Innovation Network (TRAIN) ITN under the supervision of Lou Metherell.

Dr Michelangelo Certo will join the Mauro group (Endocrinology) in June.

Dr Francesca Mazzacuva, has joined the Centre for Biochemical Pharmacology and the Lipid Mediator Unit in May 2017. She will be investigating the regulation of lipid mediator profiles during disease towards developing novel diagnostics for patient stratification and determining treatment efficacy.

Dr Julia Ramirez has joined Clinical Pharmacology as a Postdoctoral Statistical
Geneticist with Prof. Patricia Munroe since April 2017. She recently obtained a PhD in Biomedical Engineering from University of Zaragoza, Spain.

**Dr Fiona Lewis** has joined the Centre for Microvascular Research from King’s College London as the newly appointed lecturer in myocardial repair and regeneration.

A big WHRI welcome to all of you!

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**Departing WHRI Members**

After 10 years as the William Harvey Research Institute manager **Denise Elliot** is leaving us. We wish her all the best in her retirement and will greatly miss her and thank her for all the amazing work she has done. A retirement event will take place on Friday the 30th of June at 4pm on the lawn. Please email s.r.coppen@qmul.ac.uk to confirm your attendance. THANKS DENISE!

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Another longstanding member of WHRI staff is also departing from Endocrinology. After nearly ten years as a post doc in the centre for Endocrinology, **Rena Meimaridou** leaves to take up a lectureship at Metropolitan University – Congratulations! - we wish her well.
Andy Vaughan has left both his role in Microvascular Research and with Education to travel to the USA to work with "Homes of Hope". We wish Andy the best of luck for the future and thank him for all he has done.

Thank you and good luck to Dr Alexia Rossi (Advanced Cardiovascular Imaging), who has taken up a new research post in Milan.

Dr Mary Dang (Endocrinology) is leaving QMUL to take up a new external post.

We also bid a fond farewell to Professor Tim Warner and his team who are moving to the Blizzard. Good luck and don’t be strangers!
And finally....

Congratulations to **Lou Metherell** for winning the World Wide Wrestling Championship belt at this year’s Wrestlemania 2017. Unusually this was a satellite meeting at this year’s Endo 2017. This is a first for the WHRI and we wish Lou all the best in defending this prestigious title.