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Introduction from Professor Anna Dominiczak, Vice-Principal and Head of College

It was a pleasure to host a visit by The Rt Hon Dr Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, when he visited the College on 13 March. Dr Cable announced that the College had been awarded £10m in new funding to support world-leading research into more effective forms of medication tailored to patients’ own genetic makeup. Dr Cable seemed very interested in the work we do and supportive of our ongoing developments. Further information can be found under ‘Events’ and here: http://www.gla.ac.uk/news/headline_312856_en.html I would like to thank those colleagues who were involved in this visit.

On a related matter, you can see some nice architect’s images of the new South Glasgow Hospital campus developments in the Wolfson Medical School Building, around the Atrium, in the College Conference Room, and on the Level 4 corridor. Please come in and have a look.

I am pleased to report that MVLS staff have now moved into the New Lister Building at Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Colleagues are settling in well, and enjoying the wonderful facilities. More can be read under ‘From Schools’. The date of the official opening of the New Lister Building is yet to be announced.

I am delighted to welcome Professors Jill Pell and Alan Jardine to their new roles within the College. Jill has been appointed as Director of the Institute of Health and Wellbeing, and Alan has been appointed the Head of the School of Medicine. I would like to wish them every success in their new positions, and I look forward to working with them.

I would also like to thank Professor Dame Sally MacIntyre who retired from leading the Institute of Health and Wellbeing in February. Sally has been a tremendous colleague for many years, and it has been a real pleasure to work with her. I’m sure that you will join me in wishing Sally all the best for her future endeavours.
The University Senate has agreed to convene a new Council of Senate. All Senate members were entitled to stand for election. 75 places were available for elected members on the Council, and MVLS was eligible to elect 27 members. The College submitted 24 nominations. Senate will determine in due course the process that will be used to fill the remaining three places.

The 2014 University of Glasgow Staff Survey will be launched towards the end of March. I urge you to take the time to complete the survey. Further information can be found below under ‘People’.

Finally, the impact of the research we conduct is becoming increasingly important in the UK funding environment. Funders are looking to demonstrate that the research funding they provide brings the widest possible benefit to society and the economy. As a result, Universities need to support the development of research-led impact. This trend is set to continue, and not only for REF 2020. For further information about how the College and University is responding to this cultural shift, and how you can get involved, please see below under ‘Research news’.

Best wishes,
People

Senior College Appointments

Professor Jill Pell has been appointed as Director of the Institute of Health and Wellbeing for 5 years from 1 March 2014. Jill will succeed Professor Dame Sally Macintyre, who retired at the end of February.

Jill said: “I am delighted to be taking on the role of Director of the Institute of Health and Wellbeing. Since it was established three years ago, Professor Dame Sally MacIntyre has done a fantastic job of pulling together different research groups that span two colleges into one coherent Institute. She is leaving very firm foundations on which we can build. The Institute comprises individuals with a wide range of complementary skills and expertise united by a genuine enthusiasm to work together to improve health and wellbeing, and I look forward to this next phase.”

Professor Alan Jardine has been appointed as Head of the School of Medicine for 4 years from 1st February 2014. Alan was Acting Head for 3 months, following the departure of Professor Massimo Pignatelli in October 2013. Alan said “After 3 years in charge of the undergraduate medical school, I am delighted to have been appointed the Head the School of Medicine. These are exciting and challenging times for the School, particularly with the development of postgraduate programmes, internationalisation and the opening of new state-of-the-art teaching and learning facilities at Glasgow Royal Infirmary and the New South Glasgow Hospital”.

A personal message from Professor Dame Sally Macintyre on her retirement

“I had planned to retire 2 or 3 years ago from my job as director of the MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit. However, when the University restructured in 2010 and set up six new research institutes covering cancer, cardiovascular, infection, immunity and inflammation etc, I was one of the people who argued strongly that there also needed to be a research institute that covered social and population health sciences. Exciting developments in basic biomedical or clinical science (for example, the link between smoking and cancer, the role of HPV in cervical cancer, the identification of the retrovirus causing AIDS, mapping the human genome) do not of themselves automatically produce population health benefit. They only do so if translated into changes in individual, professional, and organisational behaviour; and how these behavioural changes can be brought about is the major focus of the social and population health sciences. The work of the Institute of Health and Wellbeing thus complements biomedical and clinical sciences and also provides robust evidence about the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of changes in policy and practice. Since I felt strongly about the need for such a Research Institute it seemed a natural development for me to agree in 2011 to be its inaugural director and establish its
membership, organisation, strategy, and focus. Now that the Institute is well established I’m happy to move on to my somewhat delayed retirement, and am delighted that Jill Pell has been appointed for five years to lead the Institute into its next phase. I’d like to thank all those I’ve worked with, particularly my two deputies, Professors Anna Cooper and Sally Wyke, and to wish my colleagues in the Institute well for the future.”

The Queen’s Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education

A personal account from Caroline Millins, PhD student, Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine

“On Thursday 27 February, researchers representing the Boyd Orr Centre were invited to a reception at Buckingham Palace to receive the Queen’s Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education. Weeks of anticipation turned into reality as we entered the Palace and paused in awe at the splendid red and gold gilded surrounds. A military string ensemble in full ceremonial attire added to the atmosphere of excitement as we were seated in the Grand Ballroom. A diverse range of world-class research was represented among the 20 award-winning universities.

The Boyd Orr Centre research applying multi-disciplinary approaches to tackle several high profile diseases including bovine tuberculosis, rabies, and foot and mouth disease, was recognised amidst the very best in medicine, engineering, environmental and vocational research. The Queen’s Anniversary Prize medal and certificate were presented by the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh to the Principal and Professor Rowland Kao, Director of the Boyd Orr Centre. Those of us in attendance were very aware we were there on behalf of a much larger group of inspirational and dedicated researchers and it was very moving to receive this award of recognition on their behalf.

Following the prize presentations, we were treated to a champagne reception in the Picture Gallery and awaited the arrival of the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh. After enjoying a selection of the poshest snacks ever, the Queen...
greeted us warmly and engaged each of us in conversation on our research. Her Majesty was aware of the potential serious nature of Lyme disease in humans (the subject of my own doctoral research), and expressed her dislike for the parasitic, blood sucking, disease transmitting vector, wrinkling her nose and saying; “Ticks, they’re nasty little things!” All in all, an experience we will never forget.”

2014 University of Glasgow Staff Survey

The 2014 University of Glasgow Staff Survey will be launched towards the end of this month. We are extremely keen to hear your views on how we are progressing. This year the survey is being conducted on our behalf by an independent, third party organisation: Capita Surveys and Research. It will be conducted in line with the Data Protection Act and the Market Research Society’s Code of Conduct. Your contribution to the survey will be anonymous and no-one in the University will be allowed access to the data or any of the questionnaires. Our trades unions are supporting the survey and have been working with the project team on its design and content. The University will be donating £1 to charity for every survey completed. You can find more information here: http://www.gla.ac.uk/staff/2014staffsurvey/

I urge you to take the time to complete the survey. This can be done at work or, if you prefer, at home. Hard copy versions are also available from Capita. I guarantee that in due course we will share the results with you at another of our Campus Conversation events and we will work with you to develop an action plan to make improvements and to tackle the issues you raise. Your views will not be ignored. We acted after the 2012 survey to address concerns and we will do so again as necessary.

Athena SWAN

Athena SWAN self-assessment teams (SATs) now meet regularly in a number of areas of the College to advance local bronze level submissions for the Athena Swan Charter. Progress can be summarised as follows:

Submitted November 2013 (results expected March 2014)

- Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine
- Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences

Submitting April 2014

- School of Medicine
- School of Veterinary Medicine
- Institute of Health and Wellbeing

Submitting November 2014

- Institute of Cancer Sciences
- Institute of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation
- Institute of Molecular, Cell and Systems Biology
You may be asked to complete a questionnaire or to participate in local events as part of this work and your involvement will be welcomed. Though an academic staff gender initiative, the benefits of participation in Athena SWAN are often to all staff. The SATs analyse and review gender statistics and introduce beneficial changes to address problems identified through action plans. Evidence of progress on equality and diversity issues, including Athena SWAN, is required by a number of funding bodies.

Any questions on this Charter should be directed to the Equality and Diversity Office or College HR Managers.

**Glasgow academic elected world lead on suicide prevention**

**Professor Rory O’Connor** from the Institute of Health and Wellbeing has been elected President of the International Academy of Suicide Research. Prof O’Connor is the first UK-based holder of this prestigious post which he will hold for the next two years.

The University’s Suicidal Behaviour Research Laboratory, which Prof O’Connor leads, is Scotland’s leading research group looking at suicide and self-harm. Its primary aim is to conduct high quality and innovative research and promote collaboration between suicide and self-harm researchers and experts working in the social, psychological and biomedical sciences.

Although suicide rates have started to rise recently in England, in Scotland rates have dropped by 18% in the past 10 years. One million people are estimated to die every year by suicide across the world, which equates to one every 40 seconds. It is estimated that more people die by suicide each year than by murder and war combined.

Prof O’Connor said: “It is an honour to be elected President of the International Academy of Suicide Research. This is testament to Glasgow’s strength in this area of research and the impact that our work here is having on the field of suicide research.

“There are still so many gaps in our knowledge about the psychological journey of those people who die by suicide or who self-harm. Compared to other major causes of death like heart disease or stroke, research into suicide is chronically under-funded. Funding for such research is an urgent priority if we are to develop effective treatments to combat suicide and self-harm in the future.”

At the time of going to press, it was also announced that Prof O’Connor had been conferred the prestigious award of Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences. Following nomination by the British Psychological Society and peer review by the Academy of Social Sciences, Rory has been conferred academician status in recognition of the significant contribution that his work has made to the social sciences. Professor O’Connor said: “I am honoured to receive this prestigious award from the Academy and extremely grateful that the research we are conducting at Glasgow has been recognised. I hope that this conferment raises the profile of research into suicide and self-harm in the UK and beyond. Sadly, research into the causes and treatments for suicidal behaviour and self-harm continues to be chronically under-funded.”
University of Glasgow Student Teaching Awards 2013/14

The Student Teaching Awards 2013/14 ceremony was held on 14 March 2014. A list of those shortlisted and the winners will be posted here: www.glasgowstudent.net. The awards will be featured in the summer issue of the College Newsletter.

At the time of going to press we know that two ‘Outstanding Contribution to Teaching’ Student Teaching Awards would be given to the following committed colleagues in MVLS:

- The Lymphoedema PG Teaching Team of Margaret Sneddon, Rhian Davies and Yolande Borthwick.
- Professor Matthew Walters, Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences, for the sheer amount of FAQs he answered for 4th and 5th year medics and the humour and manner he used in doing so.

In addition to the ‘Outstanding Contribution to Teaching’ award received by the Lymphoedema Team in Nursing & Health Care, Margaret Sneddon was awarded the British Journal of Nursing ‘Lymphoedema Nurse of the Year’ award, at a ceremony in London on 21 March. Well done, Margaret!

Congratulations to...

Professor Peter Macfarlane, of the Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences, who has been awarded a CBE in recognition of services to healthcare. Prof Macfarlane was keen to acknowledge the important role of his team, and the excellent work they do from their base at Glasgow Royal Infirmary. When asked what he would consider his greatest achievements, he responded in typically modest fashion, stating “just surviving and being able to pursue the same line of research for this length of time” adding “it’s also very satisfying that the work that the team does has practical application worldwide.” Prof Macfarlane, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and a previous recipient of the Rijlant International Prize, expressed his gratification by saying “I am pleased and honoured to be awarded the CBE, which was a complete surprise! I would like to think that it is in recognition of the team effort.”

Professors Robert Insall, Laura Machesky, Graham Watt and David Goldberg who have been elected to become Fellows of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE). Professors Robert Insall, Beatson Institute for Cancer Research and Laura Machesky from the Institute of Cancer Sciences, and Professors Graham Watt and David Goldberg (honorary) from the Institute of Health and Wellbeing will join those Fellows, past and present, who have strived to attain the RSE’s founding mission: ‘the advancement of learning and useful knowledge’.

Professor Peter Kennedy, Institute of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation and Dr Kevin O’Dell, School of Life Sciences, for being awarded Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) prizes for their
contribution to science. Professor Peter Kennedy CBE FRSE FMedSci, Burton Chair of Neurology won the Sir James Black Medal (Senior Prize) for his outstanding contribution to the field of tropical medicine through his pioneering work on human African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness) and Neurovirology. Dr Kevin O’Dell, Senior Lecturer, School of Life Sciences scooped the Innovator’s Public Engagement Prize for his outstanding contribution to public engagement through his skills in both genetics and communication to engage young adults with the world of genetics, particularly through his Zombie Science shows. In addition, Professor Miles Padgett, Kelvin Chair of Natural Philosophy and Dean for Research in the College of Science and Engineering, was awarded the Lord Kelvin Medal (Senior Prize) for his outstanding contribution to the field of optics through his pioneering work on orbital angular momentum, his promotion of a global community of researchers in this field and his commitment to the public engagement of science. Professor Anto Muscatelli, Principal and Vice Chancellor of the University, said: “I warmly congratulate Professors Padgett and Kennedy and Dr O’Dell on their achievements and recognition. We are extremely proud of our colleagues and their contribution to scientific research and public engagement and all three embody the goals and ethos of this great university”.

Professor John McMurray, of the Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences, who has been named as one of the most influential biomedical researchers in the world. He is included in a list of 400 highly-influential scientists based on citations by other academics. The list, published in the European Journal of Clinical Investigations, was compiled by researchers in the US who are using it in a survey to ascertain what features of scientific papers define ‘major impact’. Professor McMurray leads an extensive programme of research into heart failure which includes studies of pathophysiological mechanisms and drug action, population based outcome studies and clinical trials. He has published 585 papers between 1996-2011 which have been cited 30,200 times, meaning Prof McMurray’s work has greatly influenced other academics in the field who regularly reference his research.

Professor Rhian Touyz, Director of the Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences, said: “Professor McMurray is an outstanding scientist whose research is world-leading and highly-impactful. His contributions have had major impact at the clinical level, especially with respect to heart failure, coronary heart disease, atrial fibrillation and the cardiovascular consequences of diabetes and chronic kidney disease. Within the Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences we are very well aware of Professor McMurray’s superb contributions to cardiovascular research so we are delighted to see this recognised by the authors of this paper.”

The full paper and list of influential researchers can be found here: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/eci.12171/full

Professor Julian Dow has been appointed as the University’s International Dean for the Middle East. He writes “I succeeded Professor Steve Beaumont in this exciting and challenging role in early 2014. The Middle
East has long been an area of strong recruitment for the University, and we are happy to see the success so many of our alumni upon their return home. As well as building recruitment by ensuring that the University continues to offer high-quality, relevant training opportunities, I plan to focus on building long-term, mutually beneficial partnerships with individuals, institutions and industry throughout the Middle East. I served as visiting Research Professor in King Saud University, Riyadh from 2009-2012.”

Julian will also continue his role as College Internationalisation Lead for MVLS, sharing joint responsibility with Professor Thomas Evans for coordinating internationalisation strategy and activities across the College.

Professor Thomas Evans who has been appointed as the medicine representative for the Universitas 21 Health Sciences Executive Committee. The role of the group is to initiate and implement policy relating to the U21 Health Sciences group, monitor progress on projects and initiatives identified for action at U21 HS annual meetings, develop a programme for each of the group’s annual meetings, and to consider and determine applications by member universities to host U21 HS annual meetings.

Professor Mandy MacLean, Anne Katrine Johansen and Ivona Ruseva who have all been awarded prestigious prizes by the British Pharmacological Society. Professor Mandy MacLean was awarded the AstraZeneca Prize for Women in Pharmacology for 2013. This is awarded annually to a woman who has made an outstanding research contribution to pharmacology. Mandy, who delivered a prize lecture at the 2013 winter meeting of the BPS, described her career path, challenges and successes, and her current research into the role of oestrogens and gender in the development of pulmonary hypertension. A video of her prize lecture, entitled ‘Sex, drugs and pulmonary hypertension’ can be found here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MTqUJoeX-XcPublished

Anne Katrine Johansen won the GSK Prize for Young Investigators at the 2013 BPS Winter meeting. The GSK Prize is awarded to the best oral communication presented in the basic pharmacology section by a Student Member. Anne Katrine was a PhD student with Mandy MacLean and presented her work on oestrogen metabolism in pulmonary arterial cells.

Ivona Ruseva was awarded the BPS BSc Pharmacology Undergraduate Prize. Ivona gained a First Class Honours in Pharmacology in 2013. The BSc Pharmacology Prize is awarded by the BPS to final year students who have completed a lab-based Honours project in Pharmacology and have achieved outstanding academic results in the final year of their studies. Her project focused on studying the mechanisms of PDE10A regulation in Huntington’s disease. To view an interview with Ivona Ruseva click this link: http://www.gla.ac.uk/researchinstitutes/icams/institutenews/headlin
Dr Michelle Welsh, School of Life Sciences, who won a University Teaching Excellence Award for 2012/13. Michelle was one of five University staff honoured at the December graduations, and received her award in the category ‘Early Career Award’. Michelle teaches undergraduate students in Anatomy/Human Biology; her research interests include male reproductive development, function and disease.

Drs Krishna Dani, Patricia Roxburgh and Rajeev Krishnadas who have been awarded highly prestigious Academy of Medical Sciences Starter Grants for Clinical Lecturers. Krishna Dani is from the Institute of Neuroscience and Psychology, Patricia Roxburgh is from the Institute of Cancer Sciences, and Rajeev Krishnadas is from the Institute of Health and Wellbeing.

Professor David Stott, Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences, on taking up the post of Editor-in-chief of the journal ‘Age and Ageing’ from February 2014. The journal was established in 1972, and under a series of leading academic Geriatricians from the UK, has established itself as the leading European journal devoted to clinical geriatrics and gerontology. It publishes refereed original articles and commissioned reviews on a broad range of clinical subjects, including research on ageing and clinical, epidemiological, and psychological aspects of later life.

Age and Ageing is owned by the British Geriatrics Society and, since 1989, has been published by Oxford University Press. The current Impact factor is 3.816.

Professor Stott said; ‘I am delighted to take up the post as Editor in Chief of Age and Ageing. The journal serves major roles in driving up standards and quality of clinical research in older people, and in informing and improving clinical practice. I aim to continue to drive up the methodological quality of publications while ensuring clinical relevance. I now have over 20 years experience working as Associate Editor / Systematic reviews Editor with the journal, and so have an excellent understanding of the underpinning administration and good grasp of the ‘politics’ that have shaped the journal’s format and content. I look forwards to working with the team of Associate Editors and International Advisors – ensuring that the strong reputation of Age and Ageing is protected, and the journal continues to develop over the medium-longer term.’ http://ageing.oxfordjournals.org
Research news

Research Impact

Impact is becoming increasingly important in the UK funding environment. Owing to a cultural shift, funders are looking to demonstrate that their research funds bring the widest possible benefit to society and the economy. With this trend set to continue, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) must embrace the need to support the development of research-led impact.

Impact element of the REF

The Funding Councils recognise the importance of maximising impact from funded research. One significant new component of the recent Research Excellence Framework was the requirement for impact case studies and impact statements. MVLS produced 43 impact case studies, the largest number in the University, which demonstrated impact across a range of diverse areas. The process of investigating potential impact case studies for the REF highlighted the need to embed a culture of awareness in the College about recognising opportunities for knowledge exchange (KE) and impact generation, and capturing the outcomes, as well as the need to provide skills and training to facilitate this. Synopses of some of MVLS’ impact case studies can be found here: http://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/mvls/researchimpact/

Excellence with Impact/Sparking Impact Award

The Research Councils are also aware of the need to optimise the impact from its investments. For example, the BBSRC is running its Excellence with Impact competition, with MVLS earning a place in the competition. In 2013, the BBSRC piloted the provision of a Sparking Impact Award; the aim being to enable HEIs to fund the varied and small scale knowledge exchange and commercialisation activities required at the earliest stages of developing impact from research. MVLS held an internal competition and awarded Sparking Impact funds to the following projects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title of Proposal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr R Biek</td>
<td>Does <em>Borrelia garinii</em> from grey squirrels (<em>Sciurus carolinensis</em>) in Scotland represent a new rodent adapted ecotype of <em>Borrelia burgdorferi</em> s.l., the cause of Lyme disease?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof J Dow</td>
<td>Identifying new leads for a major medical problem, using a unique in vivo model for kidney stones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof D Eckersall</td>
<td>Diagnostic assays for Pancreas Disease of Atlantic Salmon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof M MacLean</td>
<td>Role of microRNA-96 in the development of pulmonary arterial hypertension</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof G Milligan</td>
<td>Developing a ‘fit for purpose’ assay to identify antagonists of GPR120 via high throughput screening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr R Reeve</td>
<td>Enhancing impact for the Boyd Orr Centre for Population and Ecosystem Health</td>
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Impact support

Other available funding opportunities include MVLS’ recent award of £500,000 from the MRC’s Confidence in Concept scheme. This award will allow the College to provide small amounts of support to researchers to progress preliminary work or feasibility studies to further establish the
viability of an approach and provide confidence in the underlying concept. For further information about the MVLS Confidence in Concept Fund please contact Caroline Woodside.

In addition, the University’s Knowledge Exchange Fund supports both the development of appropriate pathways to impact and the organisations and individuals capable of influencing and creating impact from new knowledge. Further information about the Fund is available [here](#). We will bring to your attention details of other impact-related funding opportunities as they arise.

As you may be aware, impact is an existing criteria used in the University’s Performance and Development Review (P&DR) process for academic colleagues. To further enhance research impact activities, the College is currently in the process of developing an impact strategy and has convened an Impact Strategy Working Group to help identify, understand, enable and publicise impact. As part of this, Institutes and Schools have nominated Impact Champions as outlined below:

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<th>Institute / School</th>
<th>Impact Champion</th>
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<tr>
<td>Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine</td>
<td>To be confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Cancer Sciences</td>
<td>Prof Nicol Keith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences</td>
<td>Prof George Baillie (non-clinical) &amp; Prof Naveed Sattar (clinical)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Health and Wellbeing</td>
<td>Prof Sally Wyke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institute of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation</td>
<td>Dr Stefan Siebert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institute of Molecular, Cell and Systems Biology</td>
<td>Prof Hugh Nimmo &amp; Dr Matt Dalby</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institute of Neuroscience and Psychology</td>
<td>Prof Ben Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>School of Life Sciences</td>
<td>Dr Kevin O'Dell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Medicine</td>
<td>To be confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td>Prof Jacques Penderis</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This is a recent development in academic culture and as such we all have a part to play. Together, we can design effective and responsive knowledge exchange and impact generation activities, capture and manage our information, recognise and celebrate the value of our impact and support efforts to build on it. We encourage your input to this process. If you would like to make any suggestions please contact your Impact Champion, or your representative on the MVLS Research & Knowledge Transfer Committee, or if you are unsure of the best person to contact, please contact Claire Gauld.

An essential component of any grant application is an impact summary, or ‘pathways to impact’ summary. The aim of these is to identify the potential beneficiaries of research, the channels by which you will reach them and importantly, how they might benefit. The College’s Research &
Business Development Team is happy to provide support in the development of these impact statements; if you require assistance please contact Dr Gordon Meiklejohn.

Building relationships with business seminar - 26 March

A seminar entitled 'Building relationships with business' will be held on Wednesday, 26 March 2014 from 1.00 - 2.30pm in the Yudowitz Lecture Theatre, Wolfson Medical School Building. Lunch will be provided from 12.30 in the Atrium. The seminar will be hosted by MVLS Research Business Development in association with Encompass and West of Scotland KTP.

This seminar will outline some of the funding opportunities that can be used to facilitate the first steps in building industry-academic collaborations. These include First Step Awards and Knowledge Transfer Partnerships. You will hear from academic researchers about how collaborations have benefitted them and the companies they work with. You will also hear about the funding schemes available to buy out your time to carry out research which is company focussed. This is a good opportunity to meet people who can assist you to develop relationships with business and industry.

Please register at: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/building-relationships-with-business-tickets-10763635323

KE and Impact Conference – 22 April

The University will host a Knowledge Exchange and Impact Conference on 22 April 2014 at the Hilton Glasgow Grosvenor Hotel. The conference is the first in a series of events aiming to maintain the momentum of raised awareness of research-led impact gained through preparation of case studies for REF submission and to celebrate examples of the benefits we deliver to our external partners and the public. It will be a forum for researchers to share their experience of knowledge exchange activity and impact generation and to inform colleagues about channels and opportunities for KE and impact within specific themes or groups and to further the process of embedding KEI in our research activity and culture. Book your place at the Conference here.

Further news regarding the College’s response to the impact agenda will be featured in future Newsletters and via email, but please contact your Impact Champion should you wish to feed into discussions.

BENCH-TO-BEDSIDE TRANSLATION .......... A BRIDGE TOO FAR?

........... perhaps not quite so far due to MVLS’ recent award of £500,000 from MRC’s Confidence in Concept scheme!

Our discovery research offers great potential to impact and directly benefit patient healthcare. The bench-to-bedside translation of promising fundamental research to create new therapies, diagnostics and medical devices is a significant challenge, scientifically and also financially. Particularly testing is the lack of availability of smaller streams of funding to bridge the gap between early stage
discovery research and more substantive translational sources of money which could allow us to realise our aspirations and ultimate impact on healthcare.

Recognising this barrier to translation, the MRC created the Confidence in Concept funding scheme to ensure that the best fundamental science has the opportunity to be fully exploited and developed, enabling it to realise its potential and downstream value to healthcare. This highly competitive funding stream offers academic institutions the opportunity to directly manage, at a local level, their own flexible pot of funding to accelerate the transition of multiple discovery research projects with the strongest translational potential. This money will allow us to finance preliminary work or feasibility studies enabling our researchers to further establish the viability of an approach and provide confidence in the underlying concept. Importantly, this will place us in a more competitive position to secure the onward more substantive funding much needed to accelerate the translation of our discovery science to the early stages of therapeutic/diagnostic development.

The MRC’s substantial investment demonstrates their confidence in our research capabilities and their potential; consequently we are excited by the prospects this award now affords us. Only the strongest and most competitive projects will receive funding and our external reviewers from industry will play a significant role in helping us to make this decision. This funding will also foster interactions with industry; significantly this will encourage the cultivation of new collaborations and opportunities to explore academic-industry training and people exchange, these all helping to promote a better understanding of the needs and expectations of both cultures.

For more information on the MVLS Confidence in Concept Fund and how to apply please contact Caroline Woodside.

SPHSU Annual Report published

The Medical Research Council/Chief Scientist Office Social and Public Health Sciences Unit (SPHSU) is pleased to announce the publication of its Annual Report: http://www.gla.ac.uk/sphsu/sphsu-annual-report-2013.pdf

This is the first Annual Report prepared by the Unit since it transferred to the University on 1 June 2013. In her welcome message Professor Anna Dominiczak said “I am delighted to use the opportunity of the Unit’s Annual Report to say how pleased we are to welcome the MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit to the University of Glasgow. The Unit sits in the University’s College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences (MVLS) and forms a substantial part of the Institute of Health and Wellbeing (IHW). Included in its overall strategy, ‘Glasgow 2020 - a global vision’, the University has ‘Health, Wellbeing and Deprivation’ as one of its priority themes. The Institute of Health and Wellbeing, which is a cross-College research institute, located both within MVLS and the College of Social Sciences, brings together a substantial group of interdisciplinary researchers with a shared focus on the aim of improving population health and wellbeing and reducing inequalities in health. The Unit will clearly make an important contribution to this vision. I am also pleased to have the opportunity to thank Professor Dame Sally Macintyre for her critical role in establishing the IHW as its founding Director, as well as her outstanding leadership of the Unit for 30 years. Finally, I am delighted to welcome Professor Laurence Moore as the new Director of SPHSU and look forward to working with him on a great future for the Unit within its new home.”
For further details of much of the research mentioned in the report, and an up to date list of publications visit www.glasgow.ac.uk/sphsu

Launch of the Glasgow Ageing Research Network

Ageing research at the University of Glasgow is varied and cutting edge; scientists from a wide range of disciplines are using state-of-the-art approaches to understand the causes and consequences of ageing. Now these different approaches are being brought together in the Glasgow Ageing Research Network, consisting of a group of researchers committed to pursuing an inter-disciplinary approach to ageing research. Combining strengths in clinical and population research, biogerontology, inter and intra specific variation in longevity, molecular techniques, comparative medicine and healthy living, the Glasgow Ageing Research Network will provide capacity to explore all the facets of ageing, including the evolutionary forces responsible for its variability, the mechanisms underlying it and its impact on the lives of people and animals. The Network will provide participants with access to a wide range of resources, including longitudinal health data, tissue banks, clinical samples, and expertise from Research Institutes and Schools across the University of Glasgow. Lead by researchers in MVLS, the Glasgow Ageing Research Network promises to be a cornerstone of the University of Glasgow’s future research activity. If you are interested in joining this exciting new initiative, please contact Mary.Ryan@glasgow.ac.uk.

CVR researchers secure funding to fight viral diseases in horses

CVR scientists have recently been awarded three grants from the Horserace Betting Levy Board. Prof Massimo Palmarini, Dr Andrew Shaw and Dr Marco Caporale will undertake a project designed to develop a universal vaccine platform for African horse sickness (AHS), arguably the most devastating infectious disease of horses.

Dr Pablo Murcia has secured two awards including funding to support a PhD studentship and a small grant, both of which he’ll use to study the pathogenesis of equine influenza virus and determine how this virus overcomes the horse’s immune responses.

Shining light on heart disease: a major multi-million pound grant for Glasgow researchers

Researchers from the University of Glasgow and the University of Strathclyde in collaboration with the University of Warwick have received a major grant from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) (£3 million).

The award is part of the EPSRC Healthcare Technologies theme which plays a vital role in sponsoring basic research capabilities to create new techniques and technologies to address national and global health challenges.
The recipients of the project are: Dr Pasquale Maffia, Professor Naveed Sattar, Professor Iain McInnes and Professor Paul Garside (University of Glasgow), Professor Duncan Graham and Dr Karen Faulds (University of Strathclyde), and Professor Mark Girolami (University of Warwick) - for a study to investigate the role of new, highly sensitive nanoparticle based measurements for use in improving the diagnosis, understanding and treatment of atherosclerosis.

Dr Maffia said “This proposal brings together physical and biomedical scientists with information technologists and clinical partners. Firstly, we will develop assays based on surface enhanced Raman scattering (SERS) and use of metallic nanoparticles for the measurement of circulating biomarkers in atherosclerotic patients investigated in parallel to the quantification of vascular inflammation. Secondly, we will develop nanoparticle-based therapeutic approaches to convey treatments directly to the diseased vessel. This will offer a new way to manage atherosclerosis-related cardiovascular diseases”.

MRC/CSO Institute of Hearing Research - Scottish Section
The MRC/CSO Institute of Hearing Research - Scottish Section (IHR) have moved to Level 3 of the New Lister Building at Glasgow Royal Infirmary. About one in six UK adults has an auditory disability, rising to one in two over the age of 75. The scientists at IHR study what a hearing loss means for someone and what benefits hearing aids can offer, especially in the domains of quality of life, spatial perception and speech intelligibility.

Their new facilities are amongst the best in the world for hearing research. They now have four sound-proof rooms, two of which are large enough for 24 separate loudspeakers (see photo), so allow people to walk around while listening. This will allow the scientists to recreate in the lab many real-world listening situations. They also have state-of-the-art computer-based methods for presenting and analyzing sounds.

The Section Director, Dr Michael Akeroyd, said "This is a truly wonderful lab. We are very proud to be part of the New Lister Building and to have such close links with the University of Glasgow. We are greatly looking forward to the new science that we’ll be able to do". Fiona Guy, an MRC-funded PhD student in MVLS, said "The new facilities are fantastic. As a Glasgow University student based here, I will be able to continue my research in a modern and spacious lab, providing opportunities to develop new ideas and welcome participants into a comfortable, modern, state-of-the-art testing environment”

The Scottish Section is co-funded by the Medical Research Council and the Chief Scientist Office. They are affiliated to the Institute of Health and Wellbeing of MVLS.
YORKHILL RESEARCH SUPPORT SCHEME - 2014 Call for Applications

Applications are invited for Clinical Research Fellowships, PhD studentship and Summer Scholarships in the field of children’s health. Individuals from a West of Scotland academic institute are eligible to apply for the scheme which is supported by funding from Yorkhill Children’s Charity. More information (including conditions of the awards) and application forms are available from the YRSS website (www.gla.ac.uk/medicine/childrensresearchsupport). Proposals should be submitted to the YRSS coordinator by midday on Friday, 11 April 2014. If you have any enquiries related to this please contact Jillian.Bryce@glasgow.ac.uk

News bytes:

Researchers have unlocked the long-standing mystery of how the malaria parasite initiates the process of passing from human to human: http://www.gla.ac.uk/news/headline_309080_en.html

Professor Anna Dominiczak has been recognised as a ‘Woman with Heart’ for her outstanding contribution to helping UK heart patients: http://www.gla.ac.uk/news/headline_309298_en.html

Teaching news

Impressed by the next generation of doctors

Caroline Whymark, a consultant anaesthetist, wrote about her experience interviewing applicants to study medicine at this University. This informative and uplifting article is available from the following link on the Hospital Dr website: http://www.hospitaldr.co.uk/blogs/caroline-whymark/impressed-by-the-next-generation-of-docs

School of Medicine Learning & Teaching Conference 2013

The School of Medicine held its annual Learning & Teaching Day in December on the theme: Recognising, Measuring and Rewarding Scholarship and Teaching Excellence. We were delighted to welcome guest speaker Thomas Olsson. Thomas works in academic development in the Faculty of Engineering at Lund University; he is a Senior Lecturer and holds a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering. Thomas has an extensive experience in systems for rewarding excellent teaching; pedagogical aspects of tenure and promotion; and research projects in relation to excellence in teaching and learning. Dr Vicky Gunn, Director of the Learning and Teaching Centre, gave a Glasgow perspective. The event was well attended with participation from across the College, thanks are sent to those who presented on the day. Full details, presentations and an audio recording of the day can be found using this link: http://www.fom.gla.ac.uk/SoMLTC2013/index.aspx
Dates for your diary

ISSF talks, 26 March

Dr Tanita Casci, Glasgow Polyomics, will a talk to assist researchers in applying for funding from the Institutional Strategic Support Fund. (Unfortunately, it will not be possible to provide assistance on individual applications.)

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wed, 26 March</td>
<td>Wolfson Wohl Cancer Research Centre, Garscube Campus</td>
<td>12:00-13:30</td>
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Building relationships with business, 26 March
A seminar entitled ‘Building relationships with business’ will be held on Wednesday, 26 March 2014 from 1.00 – 2.30pm in the Yudowitz Lecture Theatre, Wolfson Medical School Building. This seminar will outline some of the funding opportunities that can be used to facilitate the first steps in building industry-academic collaborations. Please register at: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/building-relationships-with-business-tickets-10763635323 Further details can be found above in the Research Impact article under Research News

Annual Learning and Teaching conference, 10 April
The University’s 7th annual Learning and Teaching conference will be held on 10 April 2014, entitled ‘Challenging Conventions: some conventions are challenging and some conventions need challenged’. The Conference will be of interest to all members of the higher education community with an interest in teaching, learning and assessment and, once again, will be open to a limited number of external delegates. Registration is now open. The programme and web booking form can be found at: http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/learningteaching/events/annuallearningandteachingconference/

Annual Glasgow Vet School Rodeo, 12 April

University staff and students are being invited to the 54th Annual Glasgow Vet School Rodeo. It is being held at the Garscube estate on Saturday, 12th April from 11am to 5pm. The rodeo is an annual charity event organised by second year veterinary students. Further details can be found here: http://www.gla.ac.uk/staff/news/headline_311727_en.html

Knowledge Exchange and Impact Conference, 22 April

The University will host a Knowledge Exchange and Impact (KEI) Conference on 22 April 2014 at the Hilton Glasgow Grosvenor Hotel. The conference is the first in a series of events aiming to build on the increased awareness of research-led impact gained through preparation of case studies for REF submission and to celebrate examples of the benefits we deliver to our external partners and the public. It will be a forum for researchers to share their experiences of knowledge exchange activity and impact generation, to inform colleagues about channels and opportunities for KE and impact
within specific themes or groups, and to further the process of embedding KEI in our research activity and culture. Book your place at the Conference here.

Glasgow Epitheliome Meeting, 23-25 April
This meeting, funded by BBSRC and Japan Science and Technology Agency, will explore the frontiers of insect epithelial biology, with a focus on devising new strategies for insect control for Food Security. With as many species of insects as all other life forms combined, it is inevitable that many insect species will impact on us in both positive and negative ways. Resistance is appearing to all known classes of insecticide, and fewer new insecticides are appearing on the market than are being withdrawn through tighter regulation. It is thus particularly timely to explore new ways of selectively controlling deleterious insects. Epithelial systems are critical for survival, and thus may provide such novel avenues for insect control.

The meeting, organised by Professors Shireen Davies, Julian Dow and Shoichiro Kurata (Japan), will be held in the Wolfson Medical School Building. It will feature world class researchers in innate immunity, insect neuroendocrinology, systems biology and insect control. There will also be participation from key young researchers.

Due to the generous support of BBSRC, meeting attendance is free although registration is necessary, and is at https://sites.google.com/site/2014epitheliome/Home/registration Posters are welcomed, (poster session, with refreshments, from 5.30 pm on 23 April) - intent to present a poster can be noted at time of registration. Conference contact: Shireen.Davies@glasgow.ac.uk or Claire.Osborne@glasgow.ac.uk

A Career in Science, at the bench and beyond! Seminar sessions, 2 and 30 May

What am I going to do after my PhD? This was the big question Catarina Marques and Rebecca Devlin had as they approached the final year of their PhDs. They continue, ‘The Careers Service is a fantastic resource but didn’t offer what we really wanted - to talk to life sciences PhD graduates about their science careers inside and outside of academia - so we decided to create it ourselves. This evolved into the seminar series ‘A Career in Science: at the bench and beyond’, running through the 2013/14 academic year.
Everyone is welcome to attend, though the series is mainly aimed at PhD students and post-docs. Each session focuses on a different topic, including academic and non-academic science careers and UK and European funding. The sessions are informal and everyone is encouraged to join in with discussion. The response so far has been fantastic, with two of the four sessions so far a ‘sell-out’ and upcoming sessions in April and May.

The next session is on Friday, 2 May in the Sir Graeme Davies common room from 3-4pm with the opportunity to stay and network afterwards. It’s on non academic science careers. There will be someone that has moved into industry, science communication and a research manager. There will also be a closing up session on the 30th May, where we’ll discuss the academic career, having in the panel PIs at different stages of their careers.

These sessions were only possible with support from the Institute of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation, the Wellcome Trust Centre for Molecular Parasitology, the Centre for Virus Research, and an MVLS Skills Training Award.’

Events

Visit by The Rt Hon Dr Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills

The Rt Hon Dr Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, visited the University on 13 March 2014. Dr Cable formally announced that the University of Glasgow has received £10m in new funding to support world-leading research into more effective forms of medication tailored to patients’ own genetic makeup. After giving a speech in the Senate Room, Dr Cable and Professor Anna Dominiczak walked to the Wolfson Medical School Building to discuss the University’s work, including stratified medicine, and developments at the South Glasgow Hospital. Dr Cable then visited the Clinical Skills Facilities and met some students learning skills for future medical careers, and then he met some industry representatives, and finished by meeting more students from the wider University. Further information on the £10m funding boost for stratified medicine research can be found here: http://www.gla.ac.uk/staff/news/headline_313304_en.html

Visit from Universiti Brunei Darussalam

The College hosted a visit from Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) on 7 March 2014 to discuss undergraduate collaborative opportunities. The UBD delegates, Drs Hjh. Maslina binti Hj. Mohsin, Dr Vince Cable talking with students

From L to R: Dr Jim Caryl, Mr John Connelly, Dr Anne Cunningham, Dr Hjh. Maslina binti Hj. Mohsin, Ms Harriet Wayman, Prof Anna Dominiczak, Prof Jeremy Bagg
Dean of UBD Institute of Health Sciences (and alumnus of the School of Medicine 1994) and Anne Cunningham (UBD Programme Lead for Medicine), both enjoyed their time and discussions with us, including the opportunity to meet some of our 4 yr medical students. Thank you to everyone who was involved.

**Café Scientifique celebrates 10 years in Glasgow**

Café Scientifique, an initiative to foster greater public understanding of science, has celebrated 10 years in Glasgow. The Café brings scientists and the public together in an informal setting to discuss science and its impact on society at monthly events held at the Tron Theatre. For the 10th anniversary, a special event was held in The Lighthouse in Mitchell Lane on Monday 3 March attended by around 100 people.

The event featured three speakers, rather than the usual one, who looked at what the next 10 years might hold for advances in the fields of astronomy, medicine and biofuels. The speakers were: **Dr Helen Fraser**, a senior lecturer in the Astronomy Division at the Open University; **Professor Darren Monckton**, an expert in human medical genetics in the Institute of Molecular, Cell and System Biology; and **Professor Richard Cogdell**, Director of the Institute of Molecular, Cell & Systems Biology.

Free and open to all Café Scientifique is held on the first Monday of every month at 7pm in the Tron Theatre bar. Further information can be found here: [http://www.gla.ac.uk/staff/news/headline_310648_en.html](http://www.gla.ac.uk/staff/news/headline_310648_en.html)

**Garscube Campus Update**

The past three months have seen students and staff at the Garscube campus celebrating the holidays and competing for Quiz Night glory. A pre-Christmas lunch invited everyone to bring along their favourite dish, enjoy some Christmas tunes, and celebrate the season with their colleagues. Over 60 people came along and contributed to an incredible array of sweet and savoury goodies, and our Christmas music was drowned out by the chat (which carried on until the wee hours of the morning).

We followed up on this success with a Garscube Quiz Night on February 28th, where participants were challenged with an array of random Garscube trivia (do you know the name of the Scottish Centre for Production Animal Health and Food Safety bull?) and general knowledge questions. Team “Fingers Crossed”, made up of students and researchers from the Centre for Virus Research and the
Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine, took the top prize and bragging rights.

Events like these are strengthening the links between the Schools and Research Institutes at the Garscube campus, and future events promise to develop these inter-disciplinary relationships even further.

ICAMS Open Day

The Institute of Cardiovascular & Medical Sciences held an Open Day on 25 February. Fifty 6th form pupils from a number of schools within the Glasgow area attended in the morning and were given a talk by students from the BHF 4 Year PhD Programme and representatives from Kidney Research UK and the British Heart Foundation. The afternoon & evening sessions attracted volunteers from the BHF’s many charity shops and the general public who had signed up to see some of the exciting research that is being conducted on their doorstep.

A tour of various areas of the BHF Glasgow Cardiovascular Research Centre allowed guests to see the MRI in action and also Ultrasound, pulse wave velocity and analysis, and even a chance to extract DNA from strawberries. There was also an opportunity to have coffee with the Professors. This gave members of the public & pupils a chance to ask questions about research and what a career in science is really like.

Feedback from the attending members of the public was very positive, and Carol Nicol, Fundraising Volunteer Manager for the British Heart Foundation Scotland, said "Thank you so much for opening your doors yesterday and for all the organisation behind the scenes to make it happen. We have already received really positive feedback from our supporters about the event, and it will help to inspire them to continue raising funds. It was a huge success, well done!"

Duncranrig High School from East Kilbride won a prize for the best research question, which was “Due to increased thickening of blood vessels from cholesterol or plaque is the up-take of drugs affected?”

We also had a tombola to raise funds for the BHF and would like to thank the following suppliers who donated some great prizes: C&M Scientific, GP Plantscape, Nancy Smillie Shop, The Beauty Kitchen, Zucca, Peprotech, Sigma-Aldrich, Office Depot, Getech.
The BHF Glasgow fundraising group also launched the Institute’s own cookery book "Hearty recipes for healthy hearts". These can be purchased from k.nather.1@research.gla.uk for only (£3). All monies raised will go to the British Heart Foundation.

Visit from SYSU delegation

Professor Jun Tao, MD, PhD, Chief, Department of Hypertension and Vascular Disease at the First Affiliated Hospital of Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou, China, visited the Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences (ICAMS) on 17 and 18 February 2014. During this visit he met the Vice Principal and Head of College, Director of Institute and ICAMS colleagues to investigate possible collaborations. He was interested in creating an international forum between Guangzhou-Glasgow focussed on fighting hypertension and research exchange with ICAMS staff.

"Scaling Up Nutrition" workshop

Drs Emilie Combet and Konstantinos Gerasimidis (Human Nutrition, School of Medicine) were selected, along with Dr Angelique Stalmach (ICAMS), to attend the British Council Researcher Links workshop focusing on "Scaling Up Nutrition", in Rabat, Morocco in February. Over three days, Moroccan and British researchers had the opportunity to share practice, think about nutrition in a global context and develop a network of early career researchers in both countries. A key aspect of the workshop was capacity building, focusing on nutrition education, skills transfer, shared methods and good practice, improved infrastructure, internationalisation and mobility of researchers. With key themes and interest groups identified in Morocco, the conversation is now continuing across countries to identify strategies for research funding and staff exchange.

19th Glasgow Virology Workshop

The 19th annual Glasgow Virology Workshop, organised by the CVR, was held on Saturday 1 February in the Western Infirmary Lecture Theatre. It was a really enjoyable day and we had our largest ever number of attendees.
with virologists from Glasgow, other Scottish centres and further afield. The day’s presenters included a number of distinguished virologists including Charles Rice, The Rockefeller University; Felix Rey, Institut Pasteur; Leo James, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology and Ian Goodfellow, University of Cambridge. The workshop also featured a number of shorter talks, representing a selection of the best virology research in Scotland. Collectively the presenters delivered a fantastic selection of interesting and engaging presentations covering a diverse range of topics.

Many thanks to Alain Kohl and Chris Boutell for all their hard work organising this event and the various members of the CVR who helped ensure the day ran smoothly. Planning for the 20th anniversary event has already commenced!

Wellcome Trust Liverpool Glasgow Centre for Global Health Research

The formal launch event of the Wellcome Trust Liverpool Glasgow Global Health Centre took place at the Glasgow Science Centre on 6 December. Speakers from University of Liverpool, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Malawi-Liverpool-Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Programme, Malawi, as well as researchers from the University of Glasgow and representatives from the Wellcome Trust, all attended the launch event. Local MP’s, charity representatives as well as school pupils from Blantyre and some representatives from the Malawi Young Leaders of Learning also attended. The aim of the new Centre is to recruit and nurture high-calibre clinicians and non-clinicians from across the world, working with them to develop and undertake first-class research for the benefit of low and middle income countries. Further information is available here: http://www.gla.ac.uk/researchinstitutes/iii/wtcmp/newsfeatures/headline_297016_en.html

Prof Anna Dominiczak is pictured with local MP Ann McKechin modelling the conference bags that were distributed to all who attended the launch event. It was Prof Paul Garside who during his recent research trip to Malawi organised for the bags to be made by locals in Malawi and had them shipped to the UK for the launch event.

Prof Andy Waters (Director, Wellcome Trust Centre for Molecular Parasitology) said “The Wellcome Trust Liverpool Glasgow Centre for Global Health Research is a fantastic opportunity to merge all the different skills and expertise from several high profile research Centres. Our joint aim is to provide a centred environment for training in all facets of tropical health research. Our opening event reflected this intent with an exciting exposition of the breadth of our abilities and ambitions.”
Visit by Dr Francis Ndungu from KEMRI Wellcome Trust programme at Kilifi in Kenya

The Wellcome Trust Centre for Molecular Parasitology and the Institute of Infection, Immunity & Inflammation recently had the honour of hosting a senior researcher from the KEMRI Wellcome Trust programme at Kilifi in Kenya. Featured in one of Prof Paul Garside’s “Podcasts from Africa” episodes, Dr Francis Ndungu gave a seminar entitled “B Cell Memory to Malaria: normal or defective?” He also met many principal investigators within 3I’s and WTCMP. It is hoped that further collaboration, knowledge exchange and potential funding applications between KEMRI, WTCMP and 3I’s will flow.

Prof Garside said: “I initially met Dr Ndungu during my six month research trip to Africa last year. It became clear very quickly that Dr Ndungu’s research and other research projects ongoing at KEMRI had potential for collaboration with researchers at University of Glasgow. Dr Ndungu’s visit has cemented relations between the Institutions and I am looking forward to working with Francis and other researchers based at KEMRI.”

From Institutes

Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine

SCENE’s new £3.2m residential teaching facility up and running

The Loch Lomondside centre opened in January 2014 to offer 45 bed-spaces for students and teachers, wet / dry research areas, a teaching laboratory, and fully equipped reconfigurable conference / dining facilities across 3 levels. This unit will support some of the highest quality field training possible in natural environment studies anywhere in Europe.
Successful conference attracts worldwide interest

The Institute’s participants in the IBIS EU project, in collaboration with the Atlantic Salmon Trust, mounted a large conference in November 2013 at the Glasgow Marriott Hotel with international speakers. Aimed at government policymakers, fishery managers, users and researchers, it examined the controversial role of stocking in restoring, sustaining and enhancing salmon populations and fisheries. The 23 conference videos presented via the IBIS YouTube channel have been picked up as far away as Washington State, USA where the Wild Fish Conservancy (Northwest) reported on its site: “This two day conference explored the touchy subject of Atlantic salmon hatcheries and the benefits and risks associated with stocking. This is the first conference of its kind ... The organizing groups should be commended for this effort. We need a similar event here on the Pacific coast, one put on by an independent entity”
and linked its viewers to the IBIS YouTube channel. More locally, the website of the Ayrshire Rivers Trust in Scotland urged: “It will be incredibly helpful … to watch each of these presentation once again over a period of time... these are really thought provoking presentations.”

Institute of Health and Wellbeing

Congress prize for Clinical Research Fellow

Daniel Martin, Clinical Research Fellow, was named the winner of the Trainee Research Oral Presentation Prize at the 2013 International Congress in Edinburgh, for his oral presentation: “Multimorbidity in bipolar disorder and under-treatment of cardiovascular disease: a cross sectional study”. He is currently working towards a MD under the supervision of Dr Daniel Smith. To read more: press release

The Truth about Bipolar Disorder

Daniel Smith was involved in a BBC Radio Scotland documentary on bipolar disorder as part of the mental health season "Changing Minds". Listen here: The Truth Behind Bipolar Disorder. He has also had an article published in The Herald. Read more: Disabling Impact of Bipolar Disorder

Football fans get FFITer and lose weight

An initiative that helps male football fans feel better and live a healthier lifestyle by losing weight, taking more exercise, and improving their diet has been a resounding success, according to new research published in The Lancet and BMC Public Health. Read more at - http://www.gla.ac.uk/news/headline_303283_en.html

Master of Public Health student Mariza Dacoron returns to the Philippines

Master of Public Health student, Ms. Mariza Dacoron (white shirt in first picture, yellow in the second) took a break in her studies to undertake humanitarian relief work in typhoon affected Philippines. Since beginning her work there she has been very busy and was rapidly deployed to two focus affected communities in Ormoc City working on the coordination of relief goods delivery e.g. food, hygiene kits, shelter repair kits.

Mariza has conducted health needs assessments with local people, delivered psychosocial interventions with affected children and young volunteers, and has offered a listening ear to those
traumatised by the typhoon’s effects. It has taken her a while to adapt to the 30 degree heat but she is coping well with tent life in affected areas. A typical day for Mariza will see her rise at 04.00hrs to supervise the loading of over one thousand bags of rice, hygiene kits, blankets and mosquito nets. Sleep deprivation is exacerbated by Filipinos’ love of late night karaoke! Mariza is enjoying the work but misses her morning walk through Glasgow’s botanic gardens.

**Post-psychiatry: Reaching Beyond the Technical Paradigm of Mental Health Care**

The Institute of Health and Wellbeing would like to thank Dr Pat Bracken (Consultant Psychiatrist and Clinical Director of Mental Health Services in West Cork, Ireland) for delivering a talk on 29 January 2014 as part of the Global Mental Health Seminar Series organised by the MSc Global Mental Health programme. The talk entitled: *Post-psychiatry: Reaching beyond the technical paradigm of mental health care* focused on how the current technical paradigm in mental health services underscores attempts to transfer interventions from Europe and North America to countries in the ‘developing world’ and critiqued this paradigm on philosophical, empirical and sociological grounds. The talk was very well attended and stimulated some interesting discussion.

**Glasgow researchers develop tools to support ethical interpreting**

A team of researchers from University of Glasgow and Glasgow Caledonian University, including IHW’S Professor Kate O’Donnell, have developed a series of film clips and learning materials to support health care professionals work better with interpreters. To try them out, go to [www.gla.ac.uk/ethicalinterpreting](http://www.gla.ac.uk/ethicalinterpreting)

The 5 films have been developed directly from the experiences of health care practitioners, interpreters and migrant service users. They provide an opportunity to engage with the complex realities of intercultural communication in practice. The work, which is part of the research programme of the Glasgow Refugee, Asylum and Migration network (GRAMNET), was funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council and the Scottish Funding Council as part of their knowledge exchange programme. The work was conducted in collaboration with BEMIS. Each film comes with a set of learning materials, so they can be used as teaching and educational materials as well as for general professional development. For further information: [www.gla.ac.uk/ethicalinterpreting](http://www.gla.ac.uk/ethicalinterpreting)
Institute of Cancer Sciences

Professor Anthony Chalmers, Professor of Clinical Oncology in the Institute of Cancer Sciences is the subject of a ‘60 second interview’ in this month’s CRUK research update. Professor Chalmers is vice-chair of CRUK’s Clinical Trials Awards and Advisory Committee (CTAAC) and leads the Radiotherapy-Drug Combinations Consortium (RaDCom) which aims to facilitate timely and efficient delivery of high-quality preclinical work in radiotherapy-drug combinations. Here Professor Chalmers talks a little about his research and about the importance of this initiative: http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/science/news/60-seconds-professor-chalmers?utm_campaign=SRF_Marchnews_210314&utm_content=9171484559&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Emailvision

Paper published in Blood by Dr Karen Keeshan’s group

Work from Dr Karen Keeshan’s group in the Paul O’Gorman Leukaemia Research Centre has recently been published in Blood that highlights the ability to target the cell cycle to inhibit oncogene expression in Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) cells. The study shows the existence of a positive feedback loop between Trib2, a known oncogene that degrades C/EBPalpha-42 myeloid transcription factor whilst sparing C/EBPalpha-p30 (short form of p42), and the cell cycle regulator E2F1. This paper demonstrates a novel paradigm whereby E2F1 plays a key role in the regulation of Trib2 expression via a feedback loop with C/EBPalpha. This pathway ultimately contributes to the uncontrolled proliferation and cell cycle progression seen in AML. The study revealed that the E2F1-Trib2 regulatory loop could be pharmacologically inhibited specifically in AML cells and not normal cells to cause cell cycle arrest and inhibition of leukemic cell proliferation. This is the first study showing a positive correlation between a well-known cell cycle regulator, E2F1 and the oncogenes Trib2 and C/EBPalpalpha-p30 in AML patients. This paper will be of great interest to researchers interested in understanding the dysregulation of myeloid cell proliferation and targeted therapies in AML.


Schematic representation of a model for the role of E2F1, C/EBPalpalpha-p42, C/EBPalpalpha-30, and Trib2 in AML. C/EBPalpalpha-30 and E2F1 synergise to activate Trib2, and elevated Trib2 expression results in accumulation of C/EBPalpalpha-p30 and reduction in C/EBPalpalpha-p42, halting the inhibition of E2F1.

Institute of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation

There was a full page interview with Prof Iain McInnes in The Herald on 24 February, where he discussed what drives his research: http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/health/determined-doctors-guest-is-inspired-by-patients-battles.23464784
On 24 February, Prof Andy Waters appeared on BBC Radio Good Morning Scotland, a Reporting Scotland TV bulletin, and recorded an interview for the BBC World Service Focus on Africa, discussing his latest Nature paper:
http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/nature12970.html

**Researcher in the field - Episode 6**
In this episode Prof Paul Garside interviews Dr Pete Bull and Dr Vandana Thathy, both researchers based at the KEMRI Wellcome Trust programme in Kilifi, Kenya:
http://www.gla.ac.uk/staff/news/headline_313343_en.html

**Wellcome Trust fellowship success for Dr Emma Thomson**

Dr Emma Thomson, a senior clinical lecturer in the Centre for Virus Research, has been awarded a Wellcome Trust Intermediate Clinical Fellowship to continue her work on T cell mediated evolution of the hepatitis C virus (HCV). HCV infects 185 million people around the world and is a major cause of liver disease, including liver cancer. At present, there is no vaccine and treatment is toxic, expensive and only partially effective. Around 1 in 4 of people clear the infection spontaneously while the majority become chronically infected and 1 in 4 of these will go on to develop cirrhosis of the liver.

Emma’s research focuses on the mechanisms behind spontaneous clearance and progression to chronicity in order to advance the search for an effective HCV vaccine. Emma has recruited a large cohort of patients in Glasgow and London who have been identified with early HCV infection and followed-up regularly following diagnosis (Acute HCV UK).

With the support of her Wellcome Trust fellowship, Emma will use samples from this cohort to identify novel B and T cell epitopes recognised during acute HCV infection using next-generation sequencing of the entire viral genome and functional assays including flow cytometry, ELISpots, neutralisation assays and replicon systems.

Emma is also an infectious diseases consultant at Gartnavel Hospital, Glasgow and at St Mary’s Hospital, Imperial College London, with specialist interests in early hepatitis C infection and hepatitis C and HIV co-infection. She is a member of the British HIV Association Hepatitis Group and also serves as an external consultant for the World Health Organisation. Recently she has been involved in writing the WHO Guidelines for the Care, Screening and Treatment of Hepatitis C, 2014.
**Medical Research Foundation award for Dr Mandy Glass**

**Dr Mandy Glass**, a Centre for Virus Research Career Development Fellow, has recently been awarded independent funding from the Medical Research Foundation, the charitable arm of the MRC.

The aim of Mandy’s project is to study the role of cellular proteins in neuronal establishment and maintenance of and reactivation from α-herpesvirus latency. The highly prevalent, neurotropic α-herpesviruses HSV-1, HSV-2 and VZV remain a major concern in health care, both clinically and economically. Infected individuals carry the virus for life, since latent virus cannot be eliminated from infected neurons, and it is this virus reactivation from latency that is the cause of considerable morbidity.

Research in this area has been hindered by the lack of a robust system to study infection in neurons. Mandy plans to develop a system for differentiation of human neurons from pluripotent stem cells to study neuronal virus-cell interaction, and establish protocols for latent infection studies in these stem cell-derived neurons. The successful completion of this proposal will elucidate a key aspect of herpesvirus biology, but importantly will provide the intellectual framework for developing new effective therapies and inhibitors against herpesvirus reactivation.

Mandy is delighted with this success and the opportunities it presents: “The MRF grant is of enormous value to me. It will not only enable me to investigate herpesvirus latency in stem cell derived human neurons – a new and unexplored field for which I will be establishing the tools and protocols. It will also allow me to carve my niche in virus research and lay the foundations to pursue a career in cutting edge virology and secure funding to establish my own group in the future.”

**Rona Miller scoops prize for research**

A medical student, **Rona Miller**, has been awarded a prize from Arthritis UK in recognition of her research into rheumatoid arthritis. Rona was awarded £250 and a silver medal.

**Institute of Molecular, Systems and Cell Biology**

**Professor Shireen Davies** has been awarded a BBSRC Flexible Interchange Programme (FLIP) Award for an industry exchange with BASF in the USA over two years. The FLIP awards support the movement of researchers from one environment to a different one to exchange knowledge/technology/skills that address BBSRC strategic priorities. During the two year award, Prof Davies will undertake exchange visits to BASF North Carolina. The BASF site in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, serves as global headquarters for BASF Crop Protection, and Prof Davies sees this as an excellent opportunity to foster longer-term collaborations to maximise the impact of her
BBSRC-funded research in the area of Food Security. The award will also support visits from BASF to University of Glasgow, to enhance academic-led approaches in industry.

**Institute of Neuroscience and Psychology:**

**CCNi Debate on Large-scale Brain Networks**

On 28 November 2013 the Centre for Cognitive Neuroimaging (CCNi) at the Institute of Neuroscience and Psychology successfully hosted its 2013 Cognitive Neuroscience Debate on “Studies of large-scale brain networks”. Cognitive Neuroscience has seen a growing interest in large-scale networks derived from functional brain imaging. These network models are currently used to elucidate the mechanisms underlying cognition and are subject to many speculations and hopes for understanding brain (dys-)function. The Debate discussed the challenges arising from such network-based descriptions and their potential merits in future research.

The event was hosted by **Professors Christoph Kayser and Stefano Panzeri** (Institute of Neuroscience and Psychology) and four renowned international experts on neuroscience lively debated the topic: Kevan Martin (ETH Zurich), Ed Bullmore (University of Cambridge), Andreas Engel (University Medical Centre Eppendorf, Hamburg) and Kenneth Harris (University College London). The great interest in this topic was reflected in wide attendance by local and visiting scientists.

**Recent Publications:**

New reviews from CCNi scientists:


**RSRT Launches the MECP2 Gene Therapy Consortium**

Rett Syndrome Research Trust has launched the **MECP2 Gene Therapy Consortium**, an international $1.6 million 3-year collaboration between four labs tasked with executing the necessary experiments to advance to human clinical trials.

**Dr Stuart Cobb** from INP is proud to be part of the new consortium along with researchers from Gene Therapy Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC; Center for Gene Therapy, Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus; OH and Vollum Institute, Oregon Health and Science University.

Rett syndrome (RTT) is a genetic disorder affecting girls and results from mutations in the **MECP2** gene, causing lifelong cognitive and motor disabilities. MeCP2 protein is abundant in brain where its role may be to regulate gene expression. The proposed consortium aims to test the effectiveness of
novel virus (vector)-based gene therapy approaches in ameliorating and/or reversing RTT-like pathologies. Whilst a number of points support the concept of gene therapy in RTT, the study will address significant challenges in developing effective therapeutic vectors. The ultimate goal of the consortium is to ensure rapid progress towards generating a vector with proven efficacy, bioavailability and acceptable toxicity as a launch board to future clinical trials.


Medical Research Council (MRC) Award

The Medical Research Council (MRC) has awarded Dr Peter Uhlhaas and others a grant of £800k for a research project entitled ‘Using Magnetoencephalography to Investigate Aberrant Neural Synchrony in Prodromal Schizophrenia: A Translational Biomarker Approach’ to characterize participants at high-risk for psychosis.

The award is led by PI Dr Peter Uhlhaas and Co-Investigator Professor Joachim Gross, both from INP, and also includes Co-Investigators Professor Andrew Gumley from Health and Wellbeing and Professors Stephen Lawrie and Matthias Schwannauer from University of Edinburgh.

Schizophrenia is a debilitating mental illness associated with a lifetime prevalence of approximately 1% which leads to enormous economical and social costs (€20 billion in 2005 in the EU). Dr Uhlhaas and team will seek to develop a Magnetoencephalography biomarker for predicting the transition to psychosis applying state of the art MEG towards examining neural synchrony participants at ultra-high-risk for the development of Schizophrenia.

Following from the successful launch of the Glasgow Psychosis Research Network (GPRN) in November 2013, which Dr Uhlhaas and Professor Gumley were instrumental in forming, providing a unique platform for establishing Psychosis research in West of Scotland, Dr Uhlhaas says: “I think this is fantastic news and a great start for psychosis research in Glasgow and Edinburgh which has to be celebrated.”

Science Direct journal article

An article in the discussion forum of journal Science Direct, entitled Cortex Discussion Forum on “The meaning of mirror neurons”, focussed on a debate that was held in the University in October 2012 relating to the potential “meaning” of mirror mechanisms for human social cognition and behaviour rather than to methodological issues of measuring mirror neurons or to debates about their existence in humans. The article can be found here: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0010945213002426
**From Schools**

**School of Life Sciences**

‘Dissected: the incredible human hand and foot’

Congratulations to **Dr Quentin Fogg** (School of Life Sciences) for his recent involvement in this two-part television series for BBC4, which aired in February 2014. The series producer, Paul Overton, said:

"Dr Quentin Fogg was invaluable in the making of the Dissected series, both on and off screen. He was central to the whole production as he both facilitated and carried out the skilled dissection. An enthusiast for the project from the beginning, he was an incredible source of knowledge and we are grateful for everything he contributed."

Programme details are available via the BBC web site, and BBC iPlayer: [http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01mv2jc](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01mv2jc)

**School of Medicine**

**Refurbished New Lister Building at Glasgow Royal Infirmary**

After 4 years, and a cost of circa £20 million spent on a joint NHS & University venture, over 100 MVLS staff and students from Sections of Anaesthesia, Geriatric Medicine, Human Nutrition, Reproductive & Maternal Medicine and Surgery moved into Levels 2 and 3 of the newly refurbished New Lister Building at Glasgow Royal Infirmary between 13-26 January 2014.

Designed to include a base for undergraduate medical students on rotation, as well as fabulous state of the art teaching facilities, our new accommodation offers: 48 drop-in computer cluster spaces, a 98-seat lecture theatre, 2 seminar rooms (each with a capacity of 25), a 25-seat conference room, a 16-seat meeting room, 2 teaching rooms with capacities of 8 and 12, respectively, and a social/lounge area for staff and students.

Great support was received before, during and after our move from our NHS colleagues, Facilities/Estates, Domestic & Security Services and, not to forget, NHS Telecoms. A special thanks to a few particular University teams who pulled out all the stops and worked together to ensure the transition was as smooth as possible: AV Install, IT Services (Network & IT Support), and Estates.

Feedback from staff, students and visitors has been very positive, for example, ‘I am delighted with the new offices. The bright and open feel, bright but calm decor and options of accessible meeting space has already transformed my working week! We now have an environment that we can be proud of, with proper space for our researchers and postgraduates, visiting academics and students. The positive atmosphere is already encouraging discussions on interdisciplinary collaborative research.’
This facility is now available for everyone in MVLS and if you have any queries please call the Reception Desk (0141 201 8500).

**Success for the Dental School in General Dental Council visitation**

As part of its duty to protect patients and promote high professional standards, the General Dental Council (GDC) quality assures the education and training of student dentists at universities whose qualifications enable the holder to apply for registration with the GDC. This is achieved through a process of inspections undertaken on a cycle of approximately six years. Glasgow Dental School was inspected on 21 and 22 March 2013 and the inspectors also observed the Finals Examination in May and Finals Exam Board in June 2013.

The inspection focuses on four Standards, which are assessed via a total of 29 underlying Requirements that are defined in a document entitled *Standards for Education*. The purpose of the inspection at each Dental School is to make a recommendation to the Council of the GDC regarding the ‘sufficiency’ of the programme for registration as a dentist in the UK. The GDC’s powers are derived under Part II, Section 9 of the Dentists Act 1984 (as amended) to determine sufficiency of the programme.

The report of the GDC visit to Glasgow Dental School has now been published and is available on the GDC web-site at: [http://www.gdc-uk.org/Dentalprofessionals/Education/SiteAssets<Lists/Courses/EditForm/GLASGOW%20Draft%20report%202013%20WITH%20RESPONSE%20VB.pdf](http://www.gdc-uk.org/Dentalprofessionals/Education/SiteAssets<Lists/Courses/EditForm/GLASGOW%20Draft%20report%202013%20WITH%20RESPONSE%20VB.pdf].

It is an exceptionally positive report, which finds the course ‘sufficient’ as defined above and has resulted in only two required actions, both of which are already in hand. The following extract from the Inspection Summary provides the flavour of the content:

“It **pr**e-inspection documentation and evidence provided to the GDC was of a particularly high standard, making the inspection process very much easier to undertake. The inspectors would like to thank the staff responsible for putting together such comprehensive information.

The inspectors were very struck by the cohesive nature of the Glasgow BDS programme. Despite the large cohort size, the panel gained a very clear impression of how well the staff and students work together as a team with effective communication channels in place. This should be commended. Quality assurance processes in general are good but the inspectors felt this was particularly true for outreach locations. Other impressive aspects of the programme included the graduate attributes training week offered to students which the panel felt gave excellent support to students nearing the next phase of their careers.

The support given to students through the mentoring scheme is yet another strength.

It was extremely pleasing to see that one of the major strengths at Glasgow was the systems and procedures in place to monitor and review the programme effectively together with the assessment structure which the inspectors felt was well understood by staff and students alike.”

This report from our professional regulatory body follows highly positive outcomes in recent National Student Surveys (100% overall student satisfaction consecutively in the last three years)
and the Dental School’s current position at the top of the University Guide 2014 league table for Dentistry.

The Rimmington Thomson Partnership BDS5 “Dragons’ Den” Competition

The Dental School was the centre of an exciting and innovative project in December as it hosted The Rimmington Thomson Partnership BDS5 “Dragons’ Den” Competition, as part of the BDS5 Graduate Attributes Week. This took place on Thursday 19 December. Final Year BDS students were asked to submit proposals on the topic: ‘Enhancing the Role of the Hygiene Therapist within the Dental Team’.

Six finalists were selected to present to “the Dragons” - Lynda MacDonald, Carolyn Butler, Phillip Seenan, Stephanie O’Raw, Lynsey Mailer and Manveer Virdi – and all gave exceptional presentations. The panel of judges comprised Mr Jim McManus, a general dental practitioner, Mr Stephen Thomson of the Rimmington Thomson Partnership and Dr Aileen Bell and Professor John Gibson of the Dental School. The judges were very impressed with the depth of knowledge, the amount of work put in, the innovative approaches to the topic and the presentation skills of all six finalists. The competition was very close but after some deliberation Manveer Virdi was declared the winner. The prize was a cheque for £500 and an iPad.

All present were of the view that the students represented the University and the Dental School to a very high standard, and we look forward to the event becoming a firm favourite in the calendar in future years.

New genetics textbook by Professor Edward Tobias published in March 2014 by Cambridge University Press

‘Medical Genetics for the MRCOG and Beyond’ was released in March 2014. Prof Edward Tobias, Clinical Director of the MSc in Medical Genetics, is lead author of this new book and the best-selling international textbook ‘Essential Medical Genetics’ (currently being translated into 4 foreign languages). His new book, aimed at non-geneticists, covers the latest genetic laboratory techniques. It also highlights many clinical aspects that, if mismanaged, could have very serious medico-legal consequences. His current research interests include next generation DNA sequencing for genetic disorders and RNA splicing analyses.
School of Veterinary Medicine

Please join us in congratulating the following colleagues on their recent achievements:

Dr Lance Voute and Padraig Kelly of the Weipers Centre Equine Hospital who have passed the membership examination for the European College of Veterinary Surgeons and are now Recognised Specialists in Large Animal Surgery. We can now boast more equine specialist surgeons under one roof than any other hospital in Scotland!

Dr Felipe de Vicente (clinician in small animal surgery) and Dr Kinley Smith (former resident in small animal surgery) have been awarded their European Specialist Diploma in Small Animal Surgery (Dipl ECVS).

Livia Benato who has just gained the Diploma in Zoological Medicine (Small Mammal).

These examinations are the pinnacle of veterinary specialism and represent years of hard work from all concerned. Congratulations to all!

University of Glasgow Cochno Farm starts partnership with RHET

Cochno Farm and Research Centre has formed a new partnership with The Royal Highland Educational Trust (RHET) to become one of its volunteer teaching farms for school children in Scotland. RHET aims to build bridges and understanding between consumers, farmers and producers in Scotland. Last academic year, RHET facilitated 774 farm visits and 1056 classroom talks, with services free to schools in Scotland. Two RHET representatives met Peter Hastie (Cochno Farm Director), Jayne Orr and Kathryn Ellis from the Scottish Centre for Production Animal Health and Food Safety (SCPAHFS) at Cochno at the end of January and proclaimed themselves delighted at the opportunities for teaching and learning at Cochno. Given the varied enterprises on the farm including dairy, beef, sheep, poultry, pigs, horses and bees, and the teaching space in Cochno House, there is great potential for stimulating farm visits for participating children. RHET were particularly pleased as they have few farms in the Greater Glasgow area and there are a large number of schools able to make use of the scheme. The first two school trips were booked for 11 and 12 March for 54 primary 4 pupils from Corpus Christi School in Glasgow, and many more visits are expected. RHET provides experiential learning opportunities required in a Curriculum for Excellence and offers bespoke visits to children from 5 -18 years old, tailored to specific topics they are studying at school. In an increasingly urbanised world, ensuring understanding of food provenance is vitally important so consumers can make informed purchasing choices. A previous University of Glasgow study has demonstrated that the general public are interested in animal welfare but could be better informed and that consumers who have visited, lived or worked on a dairy farm may be more likely to recognise product logos (Ellis et al., 2009).
The new partnership between Cochno and RHET will aim to make a contribution to the education of future Scottish consumers, and complements the University’s existing widening participation initiatives.

Web link for RHET: http://www.rhet.org.uk/


New Rabbit Wellness Centre
The Small Animal Hospital is pleased to announce the introduction of a Rabbit Wellness Clinic, for rabbit owning staff, students and friends of University of Glasgow. The service is based at the new award-winning Small Animal Hospital and includes a wide range of services from specialist referral consultation and veterinary advice to general health checks and preventive medicine. In addition the clinic offers rabbit neutering, weight control advice and physiotherapy. An exotic animal health clinic is also available.

Every rabbit is assessed and treated under the supervision of Livia Benato, clinician with a certificate in Zoological Medicine and in Exotic Animal Practice. More information and contact details can be found at http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/vet/smallanimalhospital/services/rabbitwellnessclinic/

Veterinary Diagnostic Services - Histopathology Unit (Research and Diagnosis)
The Histopathology Services within Veterinary Diagnostic Services can offer a range of services including fresh tissue or fluid to stained slide production and uses both paraffin and cryostat techniques. This allows the option of high quality haematoxylin & eosin (H&E) stained slides, special stains, Immunohistochemistry, Immunocytochemistry, Immunofluorescence and blank slide production (including for PCR). In addition an interpretive service with full reports by veterinary pathologists is available. Complete post-mortem examination support and high-resolution digital photographs for publication are also offered.

We have a team of qualified veterinary pathologists who are experienced in research collaboration alongside highly trained technical staff with a wealth of expertise and experience in the research environment.

The laboratory participates in quality assurance testing through AHVLA Vetqas in both Cellular Technique and Immunohistochemistry. We provide a complete service for all your research needs on an in-house basis. Our prices are very competitive, and we will provide rapid pricing and technical advice for research grant applications. Find out more at www.glasgow.ac.uk/vds or contact Iain MacMillan BSc, MIBMS, MIScT Laboratory Manager 0141 330 6933 iain.macmillan@glasgow.ac.uk

Other news
Complaints Procedure
The University's new Complaints Procedure has been in operation for six months and the Senate Office is currently liaising with Colleges and University Services to ensure that all members of staff understand their responsibilities in terms of how to recognise and take forward a complaint.

The complaint handling process has two stages: Stage 1 ‘frontline resolution’ and Stage 2 ‘investigation’, emphasises early resolution and has a recording requirement. Staff are required to provide the University’s response to complaints within five working days (at Stage 1) and within 20 working days (at Stage 2). Therefore it is very important that when a complaint is received action is taken promptly.

A complaint is defined as: 'An expression of dissatisfaction by one or more individuals about the standard of service, action or lack of action by or on behalf of the University.' The Procedure states that a complaint does not need to be in writing, so you may receive a complaint by telephone or in person. A complaint is NOT: a first time request for a service, an issue that should be dealt with under another procedure (e.g. an academic appeal, a staff Grievance), issues raised through routine feedback exercises (e.g. questionnaires, Annual Monitoring, Staff-Student Liaison Committee meetings).

For details on what to do when you receive a complaint, and for further information on the new Complaints Procedure, please see the Senate Office complaints website: http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/studentcodes/staff/complaints/

ICAMS raises tea-rific amount for BHF Ramp up the Red!

A great day was had by all on 7 February as ICAMS staff donned red en masse to show their support for the BHF's annual fundraiser, Ramp up the Red! This year’s event was organised by our own Heather Small, Katrin Nather, Margaret Ballantyne, Emma Low, Lisa McArthur and Wardati Mazlan Kepli. A tea party was held where many cakes and baked goods were donated and at which a five man strawberry tart eating contest took place, Lin Deng showing the biggest appetite for victory! There was also a contest for the best red themed costume which, in matching wig and onesie, was secured by Louise Diver.

Donations totalled just over £180, making this year even more successful than the last and demonstrating, once again, the generosity of ICAMS staff, the excellent organisation and the willingness to get involved.
Heather Small said, “We were extremely pleased with how the tea party went as it was really busy. We are also really grateful to those who helped us by baking something, the cakes were so popular at one point we thought we might run out!”

**University of Glasgow students explore the world**

Every single student at University of Glasgow has got an opportunity to explore the world. How? Simply by joining the Exploration Society. Every year in October the Society holds the Proposal Evening where the expedition leaders introduce their expedition plans for the following summer. They briefly introduce the projects and then everyone gathers in the Zoology museum to enjoy cheese and wine and to get a chance to talk to the leaders, expedition supervisors, previous expedition members or just other people interested in becoming one of the team members.

The Society’s dominant disciplines are inevitably marine & freshwater biology and zoology but the Society is open to students from all faculties. Veterinary medicine, modern languages, arts or engineering have been represented in the past. If you become interested in one or more expeditions you have to fill in an application form. Interviews are always held as there are always more applicants than can be taken and if you are the lucky one you get to become one of the selected few to join the expedition. Each member has to make a fairly substantial personal contribution and to put a lot of effort into fundraising but it is all worth it. How else would you get to spend your summer in the heart of Peruvian rainforest, snorkelling and doing research at the same time in Egypt or in the middle of Bolivian savannah observing critically endangered blue and yellow macaws? Students don’t get a cheap holiday out of it, it’s a lot of work which begins well before they embark for their trip but it is a life changing experience. You have to learn to be practical, to be diplomatic and to work with other people.

When you get back that isn’t the end of the experience as you have to help with the report write up and then present it the following year in spring at the Report Back Evening. The latest Report Back Evening was held on 27 February and proved to be a great way how to learn about the other expeditions and their findings. The total of 6 expeditions (Cyprus, Iceland, Tobago, Trinidad, Peru and Egypt) presented their outcomes. It was a very exciting evening which hopefully inspired everyone to explore and have once in life time experience. If this is something you might be interested in then follow this year’s expeditions at [http://glasgowexsoc.org.uk/](http://glasgowexsoc.org.uk/) and come to the Proposal Evening in October 2014 to get a chance to explore!

**Tony’s Tough Mudder for Fiona & Skye Simpson**

**Dr Anthony Dornan** from the Institute of Molecular, Cell & Systems Biology will participate in **Tough Mudder**, a highly challenging 10-12 mile (18-20 km) obstacle course for charity. Tony explains why:

The baby, a little girl named Skye, was delivered as an emergency in the Victoria A&E before being transferred to the Southern General Neonatal ICU. Unfortunately Skye, while physically perfect, had been deprived of oxygen for too long and had no brain function. She was cared for in the Neonatal ICU for three days before the decision was taken to turn off the life support and she sadly died.

More tragically still Fiona, despite a heroic effort by herself and the care of the medical staff, also subsequently died in the Victoria ICU. Fiona and Skye were buried together on the 10th of December.

I have undertaken to run, on the 15th of June 2014, the TOUGH MUDDER Scotland. For those who don’t know the Tough Mudder (toughmudder.co.uk/events/scotland-2014/) is an extreme 12 mile assault course with apparently a 1 in 5 failure rate.

I loathe running.

I am however determined to get race fit and go the distance, in Fiona and Skye’s name, to raise money for the Yorkhill/Southern General Neonatal ICU.

If you have the time (and money) please visit my page and donate http://www.justgiving.com/Anthony-Dornan. Alternatively you can donate by texting TTMR48 to 70070

If you can think of others know who might want to contribute feel free to share this.

I hope that either the memory of Fiona and Skye, or the thought of my suffering will induce you to give generously.

But no.................no level of inducement will get me to run it in a mankini.”

Your Newsletter needs you!

The quarterly MVLS College Newsletter welcomes submissions from all MVLS staff and honorary staff. Please let us know about your achievements and successes. Articles don’t need to be long, approximately 200 – 300 words. It would be helpful if you could please send an accompanying photograph or graphic, if appropriate. Please send your feedback on the Newsletter, articles, or suggestions to mvls-newsletter@glasgow.ac.uk. We really like to hear from you. Thank you!