Medical Fund
Newsletter: Spring 2014

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Chairman’s introduction

Welcome to the Spring 2014 edition of the Medical Fund Newsletter. This edition is full to bursting with achievements and excellence.

We celebrated the opening of the Wolfson Wohl Cancer Research Centre on 1 May 2014. It is a pleasure to finally see the culmination of the work of so many people over the last seven years. We also welcomed over 300 donors to the Centre in November 2013 to take a tour of the facilities and this proved hugely popular and was a welcome opportunity to once again thank all of our generous donors.

Alongside prestigious recognition for our colleagues at the Boyd Orr Centre for Population & Ecosystem Health which has been awarded the Queens Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education, we also congratulate staff within the Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences who have received an Excellence Award from the British Heart Foundation.

Excitement in Glasgow continues to grow ahead of the Commonwealth Games which begin in July and both staff and students are looking ahead with anticipation. We have a couple of Commonwealth related articles in this issue and would like to extend a warm welcome to any alumni or donors visiting Glasgow during the Games.

I sincerely hope you enjoy reading this edition of the Newsletter.

Professor Sir Michael Bond
Chair, The Medical Fund

ICAMS wins British Heart Foundation Excellence Award

Since 2008, the British Heart Foundation has been investing in centres of excellence, which gather leading scientists together to conduct ground-breaking research projects with the aim of conquering heart disease.

The main objectives of the centres of excellence are:
• To jump-start innovative research projects and support inspirational ideas.
• To seek out and train the very best young doctors and scientists to become the next generation of heart researchers.
• To foster pioneering research partnerships between heart scientists and other specialists, such as engineers and mathematicians, to gain brand new insight and ideas to tackle heart disease.

Newest Centre of Excellence

In 2013, with further investment from the BHF, the scheme was extended, and the Institute of Cardiovascular & Medical Sciences (ICAMS) was awarded a £3m research grant, becoming the newest addition to the centres of excellence in the UK. The BHF Excellence Award represents an outstanding achievement, which recognises the calibre of expertise in pioneering cardiovascular research at the Institute.

The overall scientific strategy of the Excellence Award at ICAMS focuses on vascular dysfunction as a root cause of cardiovascular (CV) disease (CVD). By combining cell-based systems, experimental models, patient cohorts, datasets and biobanks, with a focus on dissecting the intrinsic disease axes at the vascular level, research in the Centre of Excellence will lead to new mechanistic insights and approaches in predicting, diagnosing and treating CVD and target organ damage.

Findings will be translated into measurable outcomes through a translational programme, first-in-man trials and renowned clinical trials expertise.

Training programmes

A priority of the ICAMS award is the creation of two new fully funded training programmes: a PhD in vascular biomedicine for clinicians (3-year PhD), and a Primer in vascular medicine for basic scientists (1-year clinical rotation/observership for post-doctoral fellows).

The award was set up in April 2014 and is now nearing full implementation. BHF Professor Rhian Touyz, Director of ICAMs, is the Principal Investigator & Award Director of the Excellence Award and works closely with 12 senior co-investigators from multi-disciplinary backgrounds.
The Boyd Orr Centre for Population & Ecosystem Health has been awarded the prestigious Queens Anniversary Prize for Higher & Further Education.

The Boyd Orr Centre is at the heart of our new Global Health & Biodiversity area of excellence which tackles issues surrounding the spread of infectious diseases between humans and livestock throughout some of the poorest countries in the world.

The award was made for the work that the Centre does to address issues arising from the spread of infectious diseases of national and international importance. The research aims to translate laboratory, desk-based and field research into benefits for individuals and communities, and inform and improve government policy at home and overseas.

Rowland Kao, Director of the Centre, said: ‘Many of the world’s most serious infectious diseases are embedded in diverse and complex ecosystems and cannot be effectively addressed in isolation. Our Centre is committed to breaking down traditional boundaries across academia and promoting new research partnerships that have a direct and positive impact on communities around the world.’

A new area of excellence in Glasgow

This announcement follows the launch of the new David Livingstone Fund in Global Health & Biodiversity which gives our donors the unique opportunity to support the research taking place in this new area. This fund was launched to complement a new multi-disciplinary area of excellence at the University of Glasgow called Global Health & Biodiversity, which will encapsulate elements of Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences to provide solutions to problems which affect the lives of millions of people around the world. This fund will enable our researchers to work collaboratively with partner institutions in Africa, to allow African students to acquire training and mentoring at the University of Glasgow.

National and international partnerships

It was recently announced that the University of Glasgow will join Liverpool in a new Wellcome Trust Centre for Global Health Research. The Wellcome Trust has awarded over £750,000 to fund a Centre to support young, talented scientists in the field of global health. The Centre will harness the strong institutional commitments to global health in Liverpool, Glasgow and our low and middle income partners in Malawi, Ecuador and India, to capitalise on previous successes and expertise.

This new centre will be combined with world leading expertise from Glasgow, including the Wellcome Trust Centre for Molecular Parasitology, which over the past 26 years has developed a world class track record in basic research in tropical parasitological research and applied immunology, ecology, molecular cell biology and polyomics to both parasites and their vectors.

The area of promoting global health is of critical importance to the University.

Professor Iain McInnes, Director of the Institute of Infection, Immunity & Inflammation at the University of Glasgow says, ‘The research activities in our Institute constitute a substantial and highly competitive programme that seeks to investigate diseases of major impact on a global basis. As such, the area of promoting global health is of critical importance to the University going forward. We are proud of the achievements thus far gained and optimistic of remarkable progress in future.’

Further information

- Visit www.glasgow.ac.uk/globalhealth
- Contact Richard McConnell
  College Development Officer
  T: +44 (0)141 330 4302
  E: Richard.McConnell@glasgow.ac.uk
Official Opening of the Wolfson Wohl Cancer Research Centre

Professor Anton Muscatelli was delighted that Dr Harpal Kumar, CEO of Cancer Research UK, and over 180 guests joined him at the Official Opening of the Wolfson Wohl Cancer Research Centre on Thursday, 1 May 2014.

Dr Kumar unveiled a plaque and toured the new building along with representatives of the Wolfson Foundation and the Maurice Wohl Charitable Foundation.

Converting research into treatment
Professor Andrew Biankin, the new Director of the Wolfson Wohl, said: ‘The Wolfson Wohl Cancer Research Centre is a much needed catalyst for accelerating the process of understanding cancer, improving existing therapies and identifying new ones, and bringing them to patients.

‘The Centre is the only translational research facility dedicated to cancer in Scotland. It will greatly increase the scale of activity, allowing around 150 scientists to be dedicated to translational research. Without the WWCRC there would be an undoubted gap in the work of the clinicians and scientists throughout Glasgow, greatly undermining the potential to optimise the use of our patient population and its high cancer incidence.

‘These combined factors put Glasgow in a strong position to make a significant and long term impact on speeding up the process of drug discovery, prevention and treatment, targeting the common cancers.

The new centre will reduce the time taken to convert basic cancer research into real improvements in treatments for patients. It focuses on common tumours, those that cause the most deaths in Scotland such as endocrine (breast, prostate and ovarian); smoking related (lung, throat, oral) and gastrointestinal cancer.

The Beatson Pebble Appeal
The Beatson Pebble Appeal will continue and now focuses on ensuring the best quality cancer research takes place in Glasgow. The appeal aims to maximise the potential for ground-breaking cancer research discoveries within the University of Glasgow’s cancer research labs by funding world class scientists and purchasing state of the art of equipment.
MyCity: A mobile app game to get people more active around Glasgow

MyCity is a fun, smartphone app-based game that uses the 2014 Commonwealth Games as a backdrop to encourage people to (a) walk more and (b) find out more about Glasgow and the Commonwealth.

From 23 June, players will be able to select an avatar to represent themselves on a virtual map of Glasgow, and a Commonwealth country to play for (their scores count for their country on the MyCity leader board).

Each day they earn energy points by walking to achieve their daily activity goal. If successful, they are rewarded with a star on their avatar and a virtual iconic building on their Glasgow map. By the end of the game players will have ‘built’ their own city of 42 buildings.

Quizzes and fun facts
Along the way, short quizzes test people’s knowledge of fun facts about Glasgow and the Commonwealth. If answered correctly, photos of well-known Glasgow landmarks appear in their ‘My Quizzes’ Gallery.

MyCity can be played anytime and anywhere, but people who are physically in Glasgow can access additional Commonwealth Marathon Route and Treasure Trail Challenges to win badges.

They can also visit ‘Hotspots’ to earn real-life rewards from local businesses. All players are encouraged to post their progress on social media.

Encouraging healthier lifestyles
The MyCity app is the brainchild of academics in The University of Glasgow’s Institute of Health & Wellbeing and the School of Computing Science. Lead researcher Dr Cindy Gray says, ‘At the Institute of Health & Wellbeing we are committed to helping people from all walks of life lead healthier lifestyles. We think MyCity will help people be more active by making it fun.’

MyCity has recently reached the finals of the Game Changer awards which celebrate the contributions that staff and students in Scotland’s further and higher education sectors are making to Glasgow 2014. Dr Gray adds ‘MyCity is being given fantastic support from local partners at Strathclyde University, Glasgow Life, Glasgow 2014 and the Glasgow City Marketing Bureau. Together we are fully committed to making the game a huge success.’

Download MyCity free from Google Play or the Apple Store from 23 June.

Bequest for the School of Medicine

Throughout its history, Medicine at the University of Glasgow has been the fortunate and appreciative beneficiary of many bequest gifts from its alumni and friends.

Dr George Williamson Forrest graduated MBChB in 1940 and left a gift in his will to be directed to the ‘Faculty of Medicine’, now the School of Medicine at the University. This generous gift will be used to contribute to an endowment fund which will provide income to support the building of new facilities for medical students and ongoing medical research at the University.

We are extremely grateful to Dr Forrest for his support of the University. It is only with gifts like this that we are able to continue to develop world class facilities for our students at Glasgow.

How to make a gift
If you would like to leave a gift to the University in your will, please contact:
- Barrie Bryson
- E: barrie.bryson@glasgow.ac.uk

Further information
- PIPS Coordinator
  MVLS Graduate Office
- T: +44 (0)141 330 3150
- E: mvls-pips@glasgow.ac.uk

PIPS: Professional Internships for PhD Students

A number of PhD students, sponsored by the Biotechnology & Biological Sciences Research Council, are undertaking 3-month work placements to broaden and develop non-academic skills such as decision-making, publishing/writing, public engagement, teamwork or involvement in special projects.

The range of host organisations so far includes industrial companies, medical charities, science museums, TV/media and an MP.

Interest from other potential host organisations who can provide a meaningful three-month PIPS placement (eg challenging rather than purely clerical) is welcomed.

Glasgow provides the backdrop for the new app-game, MyCity, which was developed at the University of Glasgow.
Thanks to all our donors

Thanks to all those who made gifts to the Medical Fund from 1 October 2013 to 31 March 2014.

Beatson Non-capital
• Major
  • Miss M J Smith’s Trust
  • Platinum
    • Andrew J H Dougal
  • Gold
    • Carolyn Dyer
    • HBJ Claim Solutions Solicitors^
    • Elizabeth M Johnston
    • John and Judy Mackenzie
  • In memory of Etta Melrose (nee Patrick)
    • MA 1951
    • Port William & District Bridge Club^
    • For Jeanette Potter
    • In memory of Keir Smart
    • Strathendrick Cycle Group
    • Two anonymous donations

Silver
• Alan G Blakeley
• Timothy S Birabi
• David L Clark
• Positive steps forward - Debbie Cochrane
• Christine Crak
• Mrs Margret and the late Dr. John William Donnelly
• Lorraine Gordon
• Alex McBain
• George & Marion Milne
• Dr Catherine A Richards
• Christopher E Simpson
• In memory of Hugh Stewart
• In memory of Ann Thomson
• University of Glasgow Hospitality Services
• Muriel M Watson
• Three anonymous donations

Bronze
• Marc Becirispaic & Ian Bushnell
• Beinn Dorain Team 2013
• William A Campbell
• Dr David N Carlyle
• Clinitic International
• David J Ferguson
• Blair N Fletcher
• Mary and Ian Freshney
• From the estate of Rosemary Gallagher
• Professor Mark A Girolami
• Hamilton Bar Association
• John Hughes
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• John N L Morrison
• Helen M G Murray
• Peter Nowek
• Caroline Paterson-Hogg
• Ruth and Andrew Reid
• Kenny L Revel
• Alister Ross
• Ian Rutherford
• In loving memory of our parents, James Scott & Morag Inglis
• Alan C Steele
• Alexander Stewart
• Cheng Tak-Ming
• The Magnificent Seven
• Georgios Theodoulou, MA (1952), MTh (2004)
• The Three Tea Bags
• With thanks - Sheila Welsh
• Brian Wilson
• Richard G Young
• Eight anonymous donations
• Noted
  • A Troop Royal Artillery Army Cadet Force
  • Ian W Balfour
  • Lauren Braidwood
  • Tim & Anita Clarke
  • Marianne L Cliftord
  • Indra M Da Costa
  • Norma Davidson
  • George Fraser
  • In memory of Harry & Frances Hart
  • James Henderson
  • Kathleen A Howat
  • In memory of Nicola Jiggle
  • Angela Love
  • William Wallace Lowson
  • Helynn Macleod
  • Jean S Maxwell
  • Lauren McCulloch
  • William McDougall
  • James & Kristy McGhee Wedding gift 12/10/14
  • Fiona M McGlynn
  • In memory of Thomas and Jean Millar
  • James Mulligan
  • Dorothy Ockrim
  • Presentated by - “Round The Block” Rock Band, Stevie Douglass, Dave Beamom, Craig Lambert & John Young
  • David Riggans
  • Mrs Anita Mary Slimming and Dr Tom Slimming MBE
  • Mary & Doug Stonelake
  • Alastair M Taylor
  • Dr Lillious Taylor
  • Dr Ruth A Young (nee Keymer)
  • Eight anonymous donations

Arthritis
• Silver
  • In loving memory of Jessie Macquarie, Isle of Mull

Cancer: Brain
• Gold
  • In loving memory of Jason Houten
  • John Apperson
  • In support of Liz Bell
  • In memory of Peter McGillivray
  • In memory of Colin Morrison
  • In loving memory of Aidan O’Neill ^
• Bronze
  • Laura Bell
  • In memory of our daughter Marsha Lodf ^
  • In memory of Moore Morrison
  • Sport & Recreation

Cancer: General
• Gold
  • One anonymous donation

Dentistry
• Noted
  • Dr Martin Levinet
  • Margaret L Rankin
  • One anonymous donation

Diabetes
• Silver
  • Dr. John P Cairns ^
  • Bronze
  • Stuart MacDonald
  • Dr James C Smith

Noted
• Shona Matthews (nee Downie)

Diseases of the Nervous System
• Bronze
  • Dr. Anne L Orr ^

Geriatic Medicine
• Silver
  • One anonymous donation

Heart Disease:
Heart Attack & Stroke
• Major
  • In loving memory of Simon Merry from all the family and friends at the Mitchell Library
  • Bronze
  • Bjorn L Hoel

• Noted
  • Dr Christine F Macnair
  • Two anonymous donations

Immune & Inflammatory Diseases
• Silver
  • In memory of Betty Bryson, Donated by her brother, Alastair Bryson
  • Bronze
  • Peter A Logie
  • Katherine M Salmon
  • Christina Isabella Wilson
  • One anonymous donation

Medical Education
• Major
  • From the Estate of Mary Cameron Stewart
  • Silver
  • Andrew S Braidwood
  • Dr John D Leonard
  • Two anonymous donations

General Medical Fund
• Major
  • Dr Andrew S Barr and the late Margaret J Stirling B.D.S ^
  • Silver
  • Dr Ken Chisholm ^
  • Drs JLC and LM Dall
  • In memory of Mrs Kathleen Gillespie
  • In memory of Thomas Proudfoot
  • Dr Irwin E Thompson 1960 ^
  • Bronze
  • Ken & Jackie Grigor
  • Two anonymous donations

• Noted
  • Mrs Yuel-Hung Elton
  • Craig M Jesson
  • Justin Jin
  • Dr Booth J Judgutt
  • Dr Norman Struthers

Mental Health
• Gold
  • A salute to the work of the Glasgow Association for Mental Health - G. A. M. H.
  • One anonymous donation
  • Silver
  • One anonymous donation
  • Bronze
  • Dr JC Bamblett

• Noted
  • Lady Catherine C Campbell
  • Dr Andrew J Manchip
  • One anonymous donation

David Livingstone Fund in Global Health & Biodiversity
• Gold
  • One anonymous donation

• Silver
  • John O’Pearson

• Bronze
  • June Carver
  • David A Couzin
  • Dr Marion M Simmons
  • One anonymous donation

• Noted
  • Dr Gareth W Bryson

Paul O’Gorman Leukaemia Research Centre
• Major
  • Alexander McKenzie ^

• Platinum
  • Jane Barclay - In memory of my sister Kathleen (Kay) Beveridge ^
  • The Golden Girls - In loving memory of Rena Smith ^
  • From family of Mark Hall...forever grateful ^

  • In memory of Joseph Macklin and his grandson, David Smart - Margaret and Chris Smart
  • Walter and Morag Proven ^

• Gold
  • Graeme Innes
  • The Robertson Family and Friends
  • With Thanks - Sheila Welsh

• Silver
  • Masonic Lodge Shalaon No1600
  • Thomas Alexander Smith

• Bronze
  • Ashleigh Blaney ^
  • Jenna Campbell
  • Dennis Clancy & Sons Ltd
  • Stevan W George ^
  • Robert Kingdom
  • Heather Morrison
  • Anne Simpson
  • Annie M Sloan ^
  • Caroline J Weir
  • David Whittick
  • J Wilson
  • Two anonymous donations

• Noted
  • David Bonini
  • In memory of James Brown sadly passed 28/09/2013, beloved father to Lynn and Tracey Brown, without your valuable research, dad wouldn’t have had as long suffering from chronic myeloid leukaemia, never forgotten, forever in our hearts x
  • Brian Wilson
  • With thanks - Sheila Welsh

• Silver
  • In memory of Annie Robertson
  • In loving memory of Annie Simpson from her sisters Bridgid Simpson Smedley, Stephanie Simpson Aziz and Claire Simpson
  • Jessica A Skinner
  • David Taylor
  • Community Matters (Waitrose Byres Road)

Jack Smart Endowment
• In loving memory of Jack Smart

^ Denotes gift upgraded
† Denotes American Alumni of Glasgow University gift
The University of Glasgow has received £10m in new funding to support world-leading research into medication tailored to patients’ own genetic makeup, known as personalised or stratified medicine.

Secretary of State for Business, Innovation & Skills, Dr Vince Cable MP, confirmed the investment from the UK Research Partnership Investment Fund (UKRPIF) during a visit to the University on 13 March. UKRPIF supports investment in research facilities at leading higher education institutions and strengthen their contribution to economic growth.

New facilities and equipment
The funding will support the development of new clinical research facilities and the installation of state-of-the-art imaging equipment at the new South Glasgow Hospitals Campus, including a 7 Tesla MRI scanner, the first of its kind to be installed in a clinical setting in the UK. Highfield 7 Tesla MRI provides high resolution anatomical imaging and dramatically improved image quality. This is particularly valuable for brain diseases including stroke and brain tumours as well as dementia and psychiatric disorders.

An ideal location
Professor Anna Dominiczak, Vice Principal and Head of the University’s College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences, said: ‘The New South Glasgow Hospitals Campus provides a unique opportunity for Scotland to lead on stratified medicine. It has already been chosen as the location for the new Stratified Medicine Scotland Innovation Centre, which will link genomic data with high-quality patient medical information to improve the healthcare of patients.

‘We’re very pleased to have received this substantial award from UKRPIF, which represents a major endorsement of the clinical research skillbase in Scotland and closely follows the Scottish Government’s recent announcement of £3m additional infrastructure funding for the clinical research facilities.’

Exciting developments at the South Glasgow Hospital campus

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Name Year of graduation (if UoG graduate)

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I wish to support the University of Glasgow by giving to:

☐ The Beatson Pebble Appeal ☐ The Medical Fund (Please specify theme)

☐ Please send me information about making a gift in my will

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Research into hospital infections

On any given day, at least 1 in every 18 patients is infected with a Hospital Acquired Infection (HAI). This very worrying statistic has driven research at the University of Glasgow into new ways of combating these infections.

Although grouped together, there is in fact a diverse range of bacteria that cause HAIs, which means that no single method will ever provide the solution. The work of bacteriologists in the Institute of Infection, Immunity & Inflammation focuses on some of the most common bacteria that cause HAIs including Escherichia coli, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Clostridium difficile and Staphylococcus aureus.

Understanding the basic steps of how bacteria cause disease, and then using this knowledge to design new ways of preventing infections, underpins their research. This has led to a range of approaches, from the traditional, like vaccines, to the highly innovative such as products from nature that kill bacteria and new drugs that switch off the harmful toxins produced by bacteria.

The work is becoming increasingly important as bacteria develop increased tolerance to antibiotics.

The work of bacteriologists at the University is becoming increasingly important as bacteria develop increased tolerance to antibiotics.

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To find out how you can support the Medical Fund, please contact:

Laura Morton
Medical Development Officer
Development & Alumni Office
3 The Square
University of Glasgow
Glasgow G12 8QQ

T: +44 (0)141 330 3878  E: laura.morton@glasgow.ac.uk

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