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

We have recently enjoyed visits from senior representatives of key funders, notably the Chief Executive of the BBSRC, Prof Jackie Hunter, in October and the MRC’s Chief Science Officer, Dr Declan Mulkeen, in September. These meetings are invaluable to ensure that our strategic priorities align. Relevant members of senior College management and key colleagues participate in these meetings to ensure optimal discussion and action.

With regard to internal dialogue, many thanks to those who completed the College staff satisfaction survey; your input has been very helpful. The results are being analysed and will be posted online in due course. You’ll be informed when this happens.

Thanks also to those of you who submitted entries to the College’s inaugural Images with Impact competition. The judging panel was overwhelmed by the variety and high quality of the images submitted. The winning entry, which has been used for this year’s Christmas card, is entitled “The heart of a city” and was submitted by Dr Mirjam Allik, Data Analyst, MRC / CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit. The image and its explanation can be found on the competition website: http://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/mvls/researchimpact/imageswithimpactcompetition/.

Congratulations, Mirjam!

The results from the Research Excellence Framework 2014 will be announced later this month. The College is working with the Vice-Principal for Research, Prof Miles Padgett, and central offices to disseminate the results internally and externally. We look forward to receiving the results, and as mentioned before, are grateful for your efforts in forming the submission.

Finally, you are warmly invited to come to the Christmas Council on Friday, 19th December 2014, to enjoy some refreshments with colleagues. Prizes will be given to those awarded College Teaching Excellence Awards, and to the winner and runners up from the Images with Impact competition. On display will be posters of some of the entries to the Images with Impact competition. The Council
will be held at 4pm in the Atrium, Wolfson Medical School Building. It would be wonderful to see you there. If you haven't already done so, please register via: http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mvls-christmas-council-2014-tickets-14342529893.

Finally, I would like to thank you, our staff, students, friends and supporters, for your hard work and commitment this year, and to wish you and yours a very happy Christmas and a healthy, happy and successful New Year.

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**People**

**Key role played in College by Honorary and Visiting staff**

The College benefits a great deal from the input of Visiting and Honorary Professors and Honorary Clinical Associate Professors who are awarded this status in recognition of outstanding contribution to the College.

- Visiting Professors normally hold a chair in another academic institution and contribute to the work of the College via collaboration as well as providing guest lectures and seminars. Since academic year 2013-14, 15 Visiting Professorships were awarded in the College. Notable appointees for example are: **Professor Victor Dzau**, President of the Institute of Medicine and Chancellor Emeritus and James B. Duke Professor of Medicine at Duke University (http://iom.edu/Global/Directory/Combo.aspx?staffid={40DFF675-3C45-4590-9381-6FD3D9C6596D}&memberid=0003007340); and, **Professor Sandro Galea**, Chair of the Department of Epidemiology, in Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.

- Honorary Professors will normally be working in industry or the NHS and will contribute a clear benefit to students and staff in the College mainly via research collaboration. There were 7 new Honorary Professorships awarded in the College since academic year 2013-14.

- Honorary Clinical Associate Professors are normally NHS Consultants or Senior GPs who demonstrate commitment towards fostering excellence in education. They normally have several years experience at the highest level and have achieved considerable distinction in their field. 12 Honorary Clinical Associate Professorships were awarded since academic year 2013-14.

The College would like to take this opportunity to express its gratitude to these colleagues and to all of our Honoraries for their contributions to the work of the College. More information about Honorary Status in the College can be found at www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/mvls/honorarystatus/
Prospects Postgraduate Award for MSc Medical Genetics team

On 10th November the MSc Medical Genetics was awarded the title of Best Teaching Team (Science, Engineering and Technology) in the 2014 UK-wide Prospects Postgraduate Awards held in Manchester.

Nominations for these teaching awards were made by students, and the entries were judged by a panel that included representatives from NUS, UK Council for Graduate Education, Higher Education Academy and the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

Dave Walker, who graduates with his MSc in Medical Genetics in December said: “I am so pleased for the Medical Genetics team to be recognised for their excellence – not just internally, at the University, but across the country. The team bring a unique personal touch to the course and complement each other’s strengths, providing one of the most enjoyable experiences I’ve had during my 5 years at the University, and I’m thrilled that so many people are now able to see this.”

The Prospects Postgraduate Awards, sponsored by University Business, are the only annual accolades solely dedicated to celebrating best practice and the most exciting developments in UK postgraduate education. Prospects is the UK’s leading postgraduate education publisher and also operates prospects.ac.uk and the official postgraduate course database.

Highly Cited Researchers

Eight Glasgow researchers feature in the Thomson Reuters Highly Cited Researchers 2014 list – ranking them in the top 1% globally for the number of citations of their work. Seven of the eight are from our College. More information about each of them can be found here: http://www.gla.ac.uk/research/infocus/highlycitedresearchers/

III staff and CVR PhD students volunteer in fight against Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone

Dr Sharon Irvine, SCP Clinical Research Fellow in the Institute of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation is currently in Sierra Leone volunteering to support the Ebola virus disease response through the UK International Emergency Medical Register. And CVR PhD students, Steve Welch & Gillian Slack, are currently in Kerrytown, Sierra Leone, where they are volunteering with Save the Children International on a project to establish a diagnostic laboratory for the processing of samples from patients with suspected Ebola from across the western region of the country.
Before their deployment, they underwent a week of training in the Public Health England laboratories at Porton Down where they worked in a scale replica of the lab they’re now based in in Kerrytown.

Both students have previously worked in NHS diagnostic laboratories before commencing their PhD studies. Steve and Gillian have been keeping us up to date while they’ve been away and you can read their latest blog here: [http://www.gla.ac.uk/researchinstitutes/iii/cvr/news/](http://www.gla.ac.uk/researchinstitutes/iii/cvr/news/)

Before they left, we also recorded a short video of them discussing their motivation for volunteering:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5jJVqL_iBQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5jJVqL_iBQ)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqeg14jLd9E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqeg14jLd9E)

**PhD student wins US Obesity Society prize for the significant contribution of her research to the understanding of obesity**

Charoula Konstantia Nikolaou, a final year PhD student at the Human Nutrition department conducted the first long term study on the impact of calorie labeling on body weight, under the supervision of Prof Mike Lean. Recent guidance from the United States’ Affordable Care Act and the United Kingdom’s Responsibility Deal encourage calorie labeling in chain restaurants, yet there have been mixed results as to the effects of calorie labeling on consumers’ meal choices and no results on body weight. Nikolaou’s research showed that consistent exposure to prominent calorie labeling of main meals reduced the likelihood of young adults gaining any weight over a one-year period by 50%. This is especially important because young adults are vulnerable to weight gain, which often leads to obesity later in life.

This study was selected by the editors of the journal *Obesity* to be highlighted in the 2nd Annual Obesity Journal Symposium at Obesity Week 2014 as a state-of-art research and for its contribution to the understanding of obesity. The study was selected among 40 studies that entered the competition and was presented in a special session on Wednesday, Nov. 5 at Boston Convention and Exhibition center, MA, US. The Graduate School awarded Nikolaou £700 to attend the special session.

**Congratulations to......**

- **The Institute of Health and Wellbeing who were awarded the Athena Swan Bronze Award**

  Professor Sally-Ann Cooper, Chair of the Self-Assessment Team, “The Institute has been awarded our Athena SWAN bronze award, in recognition of our work towards gender equality. We are now striving towards an achievement at silver level”. The award will be valid until November 2017 and was presented to Professor Cooper at an awards ceremony at Robinson College, University of Cambridge.
• **Prof Peter Langhorne**, Professor of Stroke Care in the Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences, who was given the prestigious World Stroke Organisation President’s Award for Services to Stroke in October 2014 at the 9th World Stroke Congress, Istanbul. As part of the award he delivered a "Lecture of Excellence" entitled "The stroke unit story".

• **Prof Iain McInnes**, who received a City of Glasgow Lord Provost’s award for his research into the causes of rheumatoid arthritis and inflammatory disease. Prof McInnes accepted the award at a special awards ceremony held in City Chambers on 31st October. He said “This was an unexpected but very much appreciated award. It is recognition of the very many outstanding health care professionals and scientists in Glasgow who have committed their time, intellect and enthusiasm to the pursuit of improving the outcomes for people with rheumatoid arthritis. Although there remain many unanswered questions – we are committed to finding answers!”

• **Jim Stewart**, who will retire from the University on 12th December 2014 after 26 years as Stores Manager, firstly in Biochemistry, then FBLS, and most recently MVLS. Many of you may not realize, but Jim has been instrumental in ensuring that the supplies necessary for research in most parts of the College are provided without interruption. Over the years, Jim has played a crucial role in developing the stores to the efficient service that it is today. By setting up the delivery service he was able to expand the service throughout FBLS initially and has continued this within the College. Jim’s knowledge of stores operation and products therein is second to none and he will be greatly missed as the success and development of the stores has been entirely down to him. We wish Jim all the best for the future and a happy retirement.

• **Dr Vittal Katikireddi**, a Clinical Lecturer in the Institute of Health and Wellbeing, was awarded the prestigious Chalmers prize at the recent Cochrane Collaboration Annual Colloquium in Hyderabad, India, for his poster entitled, ‘How do systematic reviews incorporate assessment of study quality into the synthesis of evidence? A methodological study.’ **Dr Hilary Thomson**, also based at the MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit, was an invited plenary speaker at the event, which is the key international gathering of scholars engaged in evidence synthesis. Hilary spoke on 'Developing and inspiring capacity for public health evidence: strategic needs and directions'. She gave a further lecture on 'The use and utility of narrative synthesis of quantitative data', convened a workshop on 'Producing useful evidence syntheses for public health decision-making: sharing experiences, challenges and ways forward' and contributed to a presentation on 'Using evidence syntheses: views and experiences of public health decision makers and review authors in the United Kingdom.’ An impressive demonstration of the strength of the Unit’s work on evidence synthesis.
• **Dr Imran Ahmad**, a clinical lecturer and specialty registrar in urological surgery at the Beatson Institute/Institute of Cancer Sciences, who has recently been awarded two prestigious prizes at international urology meetings held in Glasgow. In one week in October, Dr Ahmad’s work on aggressive prostate cancer in Pten mutant mice was awarded the annual ARTP prize at the ESUR annual meeting in the Grand Central Hotel (photo attached), and at the 34th Annual Congress of the Societe Internationale D’Urologie in the SECC Dr Ahmad was awarded the prestigious Hunterian Professorship by the Royal College of Surgeons of England for his earlier studies investigating the role of the Wnt signalling pathway in bladder cancer.

Dr Ahmad is continuing his higher surgical training in parallel with his continuing academic research in Professor Hing Leung’s group at the Beatson Institute. His interests are predominantly in in vivo models of prostate and bladder cancer, with a clinical interest in minimally-invasive pelvic surgery.

• **Kathleen Boyd** and **Dr Cindy Gray**, Institute of Health and Wellbeing, who have been selected to go on the Aurora Leadership Programme. Launched in November 2013 Aurora aims to encourage a wide range of women in academic and professional roles to think of themselves as leaders, to develop leadership skills, and to help institutions maximise the potential of these women. This innovative development process is for women up to senior lecturer level or professional services equivalent. The University is investing in it as part of its drive to achieve gender balance its leadership: [http://www.lfhe.ac.uk/en/programmes-events/you/aurora/index.cfm](http://www.lfhe.ac.uk/en/programmes-events/you/aurora/index.cfm)

• **Dr Francesco Baldini**, an EMBO-AXA research fellow in the Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine, who received an honorable mention in the Young Investigator Awards at the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in New Orleans. Francesco is pictured talking to renowned attendee, William Henry "Bill" Gates III

• **Navapon Techakriengkrai**, CVR PhD student, who was awarded the Merial IFRRS award for the best student presentation at the joint meeting of the International Society for Companion Animal Infectious Diseases 3rd Biennial Symposium and the 12th International Feline Retrovirus Research Symposium held in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. He was able to attend this meeting with the support of a Conference Support Award from the MVLS Graduate
School. His talk was entitled “Tissue compartmentalisation in feline immunodeficiency virus infection”.

Training

Career development courses and resources for researchers

The University’s staff development webpages (www.gla.ac.uk/services/humanresources/staffdevelopment/learningcoursesandresources/researcherdevelopment/) provide links to courses, resources and other opportunities (both University and external) which might be of use when planning your professional development as a researcher.

It is expected that researchers will normally undertake at least three days a year of training in skills for personal, professional and career development (e.g. relating to teaching, enterprise, knowledge exchange, employability or public engagement), as set out in the University’s Code of Practice for the Management of Research Staff.

www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_300012_en.pdf

We’ve used the structure of the Vitae researcher development framework (RDF) to organise the site, which brings together provision from the Staff Development Service (SDS), the Research, Strategy and Innovation Office (RSIO), the Library, Careers and other key services within the University.

U21 Early Career Researcher Workshop 2015

The U21 Early Career Researcher Workshop 2015 will take place at University College Dublin from 4th-6th March 2015, on the theme Innovation and Entrepreneurship. The University of Glasgow will fully fund travel and accommodation for up to 5 ECRs to attend. Feedback from staff who have attended previous U21 workshops has been very positive, particularly regarding the opportunity to work with colleagues from across discipline areas, and to build international networks. The deadline for applications is Friday 9th January at 4pm. Please contact Sarah Ward (Sarah.Ward@glasgow.ac.uk) for more information.

• Impact

How is the College helping YOU with impact? Hopefully you have seen our Research Impact webpages (http://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/mvls/researchimpact/) which illustrate some of the REF Impact case studies along with presenting our College Impact Strategy. You should also have logged on to our Impact moodle site (check your moodle list in ‘MyGlasgow’) which has resources and practical tools for supporting impact. Beyond these, did you know there is personal support and
advice available directly to you? Each School and Institute has an ‘Impact Champion’
(http://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/mvls/researchimpact/ourstrategy/) and you can approach them to
discuss any aspect of impact as a first step. Furthermore the MVLS Research and Business
Development team (http://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/mvls/researchdevelopment/) are able to
specifically advise on Impact Summaries and Pathways to Impact statements for any grant and are
also able to provide in depth support and advice on grant funding which has an impact focus. This
includes MRC DPFS, BBSRC/NERC Follow-on Fund and many more examples (see RBD webpage).

BBSRC Excellence with Impact competition visit
The College recently hosted a successful visit from the BBSRC as part of our participation in their
Excellence with Impact competition. Many people around the College worked hard in preparation
for this visit - including Impact Champions, Impact Theme Leaders, BBSRC Sparking Impact award
holders, BBSRC-funded PhD students and postdocs, and administrative staff – and thanks go to them
for making the visit so worthwhile. The competition will run until 2016, and we will submit the
interim report in January 2015.

MVLS Images with Impact competition
As mentioned above, the College’s inaugural Images with Impact competition was a great success,
and the judging panel was overwhelmed by the variety and high quality of the images submitted.
The winning entry, which has been used on this year’s Christmas card, is entitled “The heart of a
city” and was submitted by Dr Mirjam Allik, Data Analyst, MRC / CSO Social and Public Health
Sciences Unit. The image and its explanation can be found on the competition website:
http://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/mvls/researchimpact/imageswithimpactcompetition/. At the
Christmas Council on 19th December prizes will be presented to Mirjam and two runners-up, to be
announced at the event. Please register to attend here: http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mvls-
christmas-council-2014-tickets-14342529893.

Institute of Health and Wellbeing toolkit for knowledge exchange and impact
The Institute of Health and Wellbeing (IHW) has developed a ‘toolkit’ of ideas and resources for use
in thinking about achieving impact for research. You can find it here: here and here. It takes you
through the research process: setting the research agenda; writing a research proposal; doing your
research; disseminating your research. For each of these it makes suggestions and links to resources
for you to consider: who else may be interested?; strategies; actions; useful resources and capturing
impact.

Public engagement activity
The Society of Biology Scotland Branch held a very-well attended free public symposium on Big Data and Precision
Medicine at the Glasgow Science Centre in mid-November. The symposium provided an opportunity for members of
the public to learn how the recent advances in knowledge of the human genome can positively impact on their health
and the health of their family; is in relation to getting the right treatment to the right patient at the right time
through stratified or personalised medicine. The speakers were: Prof Anna Dominiczak, Prof Jill Pell, Dr. David

From L to R: Profs John Coggins, Anna Dominiczak, Jill Pell, Sean Grimmond
and Dr David Sibbald
Sibbald of Aridhia Informatics, and Prof Sean Grimmond.

**Big Biology Day Scotland** was one of six science festivals taking place in the UK as part of Biology Week, organised by the Society of Biology (funded by the University of Glasgow, the Scottish Government and others as one of the Middle of Scotland Science Festivals (MoSSFest in 2014). In mid-October, Dr Jana Anderson, IHW, joined the scientists to talk to the public about her work and the work of IHW, and through engaging the public in a variety of activities aimed at children and their families tried to educate them about how many factors combine together to affect the health of individuals and communities and the importance of prevention of ill-health.

In addition, Jana participated in a Meet the Expert event at the Glasgow Science Centre, where the visitors get an opportunity to interact with scientists from a broad range of subjects. Jana joined the event to give the public an opportunity to learn about health determinants through a variety of activities. The activities highlighted that the choices we make in our lives, what we eat, how we spend our time - whether at work, school or outside, alone or in a company of others, where we live and how we look after ourselves all have an impact on our health.

Some staff from the Centre for Virus Research (CVR) went along to the Explorathon event at Glasgow Science Centre on 26th September. The 'Build a Virus' activity went down a treat, with one person saying it was 'the best game ever'. Praise indeed! They managed to speak to lots of visitors who learned all about the structure of viruses and how to help prevent infection.

- **Research news**

  **£1.5 million for Glasgow Polyomics**

Glasgow Polyomics has received a grant of £1.5 million from the Wellcome Trust's Institutional Strategic Support Fund. The MVLS research facility is one of 25 organisations across the UK to receive grants from the Wellcome Trust, through the £38 million Institutional Strategic Support Fund (ISSF), to support biomedical research and related activities over the next two years. Further information can be found here: [http://www.gla.ac.uk/staff/news/headline_374554_en.html?utm_source=newsletter](http://www.gla.ac.uk/staff/news/headline_374554_en.html?utm_source=newsletter) and here: [here](http://www.gla.ac.uk/staff/news/headline_374554_en.html?utm_source=newsletter).

**The GLAZgo Discovery Centre – off to an impressive start**
On 20th October 2014 the University of Glasgow and AstraZeneca officially launched the GLAZgo Discovery Centre focusing on immunological disease processes. With the agreement signed just under a year ago the launch highlighted what can be achieved when two parties share a common philosophy on how academic medicine and a pharmaceutical company should combine forces to drive forward the creation of future medicines.

The partnership is based on an agile and highly integrated collaborative model. This has helped to create a dynamic and flexible environment bringing together established drug-development capability with high quality basic, translational and clinical research.

The two-way exchange of information is already delivering a new understanding of the underlying mechanism involved in one of AstraZeneca’s drug projects with an immunological target. In addition future areas of research are being fostered through combining novel immunological cellular assays from the Institute of Infection, Immunology and Inflammation with the chemistry expertise and specific tools from AstraZeneca.

The Centre is also aimed at training the next generation of researchers at the interface between academic and industry science and has underway an active PhD programme with joint supervisors from the two partners. Further information can be found here: [http://www.glazgodiscoverycentre.co.uk/](http://www.glazgodiscoverycentre.co.uk/)

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**Official Launch of the Glasgow Ageing Network**

On November 20, 2014 the Glasgow Ageing Research Network (GARNER) held its official launch in the Wolfson Medical School Building. The launch featured an introduction to GARNER by Professor Pat Monaghan from the Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine, who described how the structure of the College facilitates the interdisciplinary approach to ageing adopted by GARNER. **Professor Monaghan** then invited our Head of College, **Professor Anna Dominiczak**, to introduce our keynote speaker, **Professor Abraham Aviv**. We were then treated to an engaging lecture on ageing, telomeres and the trade-off between fast growth/slow growth and cancer/atherosclerosis by Professor Aviv, from Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. After the lecture and some spirited questions, guests enjoyed canapés and wine in the Atrium, capping off a lovely evening and the start of an exciting new research endeavour.
Gold Medal for UoG at iGEM

Congratulations to a team of University of Glasgow students who have won a prestigious gold medal at this year’s iGEM (International Genetically Engineered Machine) competition held in Boston USA in November.

The competition involved student teams from 32 countries and 245 universities, each designing and carrying out their own project over the summer.

The Glasgow team included ten undergraduate students from biological sciences and engineering, and was supported by Dr Sean Colloms and Dr Julien Reboud.

The iGEM is the premiere undergraduate Synthetic Biology competition. Student teams are given a kit of biological parts and are tasked with using these parts and new parts of their own design to build biological systems and operate them in living cells.

The UoG project involved the successful design and construction of a novel recombinase-based genetic switch in bacteria. The switch would control swimming and flotation in bacteria and could be used to desalinate water for agriculture or household use. Photosynthetic bacteria would be engineered to take up high concentrations of salt from sea or brackish water. Once a high enough concentration of salt was reached within the cells, the switch would be triggered causing the bacteria to stop swimming and float up to the surface for easy collection – removing salt from the water. Using energy from the sun, this system would be much less energy-intensive than existing desalination processes.

The Gold medal was awarded to the UoG team following an excellent oral presentation by the students in Boston, as well as assessment of their project results, online wiki, and public engagement activities.

WEST OF SCOTLAND PAEDIATRIC RESEARCH BOARD NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2014

The West of Scotland Paediatric Research Board November 2014 Newsletter is now available on the Children’s Research Support website or you can download it directly here: http://www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_375735_en.pdf . This research update contains a number of items relating to paediatric research across the West of Scotland.

Using computer games to identify early signs of neurotoxicity in children with cancer
Children with leukaemia receive chemotherapy targeted to the central nervous system to prevent disease recurrence at this site. This treatment can cause collateral damage to the normal brain tissue leading to reductions in IQ, attention span and working memory. Currently no treatments are available to prevent or treat neurotoxicity from childhood cancer therapy. Dr Halsey in the Institute of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation has been awarded a grant from Children with Cancer UK to lead a national childhood leukaemia study examining whether simple computer-based puzzles alongside genetic and cerebrospinal fluid tests can identify children with early signs of neurotoxicity. The results will be used to discover new ways of identifying, treating and/or preventing this devastating complication of childhood cancer treatment.

- **Research news bytes....**

  **A ‘fish’ called Murphy**

  A newly-discovered genus of Zambian freshwater phytoplankton has been named in honour of plant and freshwater ecologist, Dr Kevin Murphy:
  

  **Green Spaces Link to Poorer Mental Health in Women**

  Moving to the countryside may be the dream of many stressed city-dwelling Scots – but new research shows that for women it may not be as beneficial as once believed. Health experts from IHW have discovered that social isolation and safety fears give women in the greenest parts of the country poorer levels of mental health than their male counterparts:
  

- **Dates for your diary**

  **MVLS Christmas Council, 19 December**

  You are warmly invited to attend the MVLS Christmas Council on Friday 19 December at 4pm in the Atrium, Wolfson Medical School Building, University Avenue. Please join us for mince pies and mulled wine/refreshments whilst hearing from the Head of College, Professor Anna Dominiczak, about the achievements of the College over the past year. For catering purposes, please RSVP here:
  
  [http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mvls-christmas-council-2014-tickets-14342529893](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mvls-christmas-council-2014-tickets-14342529893). It would be great to see you there!

  **Inaugural Fellows Network meeting, 20 January 2015**

  The recently-established Fellows Network will be holding its inaugural meeting on Tuesday 20th January. The Fellows Network was created by researchers within MVLS to provide a cross-disciplinary forum for early-career fellows and new PIs to discuss and develop collaborative research ideas. In time, the Network will also host informal grant writing and feedback sessions to
complement schemes already in place within the University. This new and exciting initiative includes around 60 researchers from the colleges of MVLS and Science and Engineering. We are very fortunate to host Prof. Miles Padgett (Vice-Principal for Research and Enterprise) and Prof. Graeme Milligan (MVLS Dean of Research) at our inaugural meeting, which will take place in the ground-floor Seminar Room in the Wolfson Link Building on 20th January 2015 at 4pm. This meeting is particularly targeted at early-career researchers and new PIs within the Colleges of MVLS and Science and Engineering, although everyone is welcome to attend. For catering purposes, please contact Ange Bradshaw (angela.bradshaw@glasgow.ac.uk), Scott Johnstone (scott.johnstone@glasgow.ac.uk) or Marco Meloni (marco.meloni@glasgow.ac.uk) if you wish to attend the meeting, or if you would like any further information on the Fellows Network.

Pint of Science 2015, 18-21 May 2015

In 2012, 'Pint of Science' was launched by a group of postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers in Oxford and Cambridge as a non-profit organization. The festival is about bringing excellent scientific speakers to the public to give informal talks about their research/interest. The festival takes place over three days simultaneously in multiple pubs across six countries! Last year the University of Glasgow was the first to bring it to Scotland and saw great success with over 500 people attending, and this year we plan on making it bigger and better! Each year four themes are covered and this year you can expect to see Our Body, Matters of the Mind, Atoms to Galaxies and Tech Me Out. The festival runs from the 18th to the 21st of May and you don’t want to miss out. Last year our speakers spoke on zombies, invisibility and robots so you know you can expect great things from us in the coming year! If you want to know more or would like to take part you can contact us at pintofscienceglasgow@gmail.com

- Events

Telomere Dynamics Workshop

From November 17th-19th, Professor Pat Monahan from the Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine, along with Professor Mark Haussmann (Bucknell University, currently on sabbatical with IBAHCM) and Professor Dan Nussey (University of Edinburgh) hosted a meeting of the International Network on Telomere Biology in Drymen. The meeting, the first of three supported by a grant from the Leverhulme Trust, focussed on
Diversity in Telomere Dynamics and welcomed researchers from across the globe who work on different facets of telomere biology. Delegates heard from clinical researchers, behavioural ecologists, epidemiologists, molecular biologists, and evolutionary ecologists studying organisms ranging from humans to planarians, birds to marsupials and amphibians to fish. Informal discussions in the evening, combined with engaging speakers throughout the day, ensured that all delegates left with new insights about telomere research and new ideas for collaborations and research. The next in this series of interdisciplinary meetings will likely take place in 2015, so stay tuned for more details!

MVLS Visit to Wuhan, Guangzhou and Hong Kong, 3-7 November

This visit was undertaken by Prof Anna Dominiczak (Vice Principal, Regius Professor of Medicine and Head of College, MVLS), Prof Matthew Walters (Professor of Clinical Pharmacology, Deputy Dean (Internationalisation) of MVLS Graduate School and Head of the Undergraduate Medical School, and Ms Rachel Sandison (Director, Recruitment and International Office).

The visit involved travel to Wuhan, in Hubei province in mainland China to participate in local academic symposia hosted by Wuhan University, and to discuss collaborative opportunities in research, teaching and student exchange with that institution. From there the delegation travelled to Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou to participate in another regional academic meeting, to discuss expansion of existing collaboration at UG and PG levels including undergraduate exchange and dual PGT programmes. Thence the delegation travelled to Hong Kong to host an event for alumni and to further discuss collaborative work with colleagues at HKU and CUHK, facilitated by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.

There was productive and wide-ranging discussion of existing and potential collaboration at undergraduate, postgraduate and senior levels at each site. The new opportunities identified will be explored with a view to definitive action and mutually advantageous progress.

Whilst at Sun Yat-sen University Prof Anna Dominiczak, Head of College, was appointed as a visiting professor until October 2016. She will facilitate further work on clinical hypertension research by Prof Jun Tao and his team.

Professor Dominiczak said: “I’m pleased and proud to accept the position of Adjunctive Professor in Sun Yat-sen University’s First Affiliated Hospital. It’s a tremendous honour and I’m glad to be playing a key role in extending the University of Glasgow’s partnership with this leading Chinese research and teaching university.”
Building the WestBio Network, 6 November

On the 6th November students from the partner organisations of the West of Scotland Bioscience Doctoral Training Partnership (WestBio) came together to meet and share experiences of their professional internships and their time as PhD research students.

WestBio was established in 2012 in response to a funding call from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) for new Doctoral partnerships. This collaboration allows enhanced training opportunities for its students, whilst building research capacity in key domains across the universities of Strathclyde, Glasgow and Stirling. It also works closely with the Pirbright Institute and Moredun.

The WestBio students held the floor for much of the day sharing their experiences of their Professional Internship for PhD Students (a new scheme aimed at developing the students’ soft–skills) or illustrating their research projects. Topics ranged from ‘Creating political briefings for the Society of General Microbiology in London’ to ‘Mycobacterium bovis in cattle and badgers’.

Guest speakers then spoke about training and outreach opportunities or illustrated their own experiences of a career in research. The event finished on a high note with a presentation from SuperHeroes an initiative which takes science into local schools.

MVLS Industry Day 2014, 27 October

The College’s second Industry Day was held on Monday 27th October, where our academics, students and external industry representatives were able to discuss collaborative opportunities and the challenges
they face to do so. We were delighted to significantly increase the number of delegates as well as attract more than double the number of external attendees from our last event in 2012.

Our post event survey has given us excellent feedback; most encouragingly that 82% of external attendees are planning a follow-up discussion with contacts made on the day.

The College’s Research & Business Development team would be pleased to assist you with any funding opportunities you may wish to take-up. These can be found on our website www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/mvls/researchdevelopment or you can contact us at mvls-rbd@glasgow.ac.uk.

**Inaugural Lectures**

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| 7 Oct  | **Professor Laurence Moore** - Director of the MRC/CSO Social & Public Health Sciences Unit  
Title: Public Health Improvement: it’s not rocket science!?  
Institute of Health & Wellbeing  
Chair: Professor Jill Pell  
[Watch a video of this lecture](#) |
| 29 Oct | **Professor Tomasz Guzik** - Regius Chair of Physiology/Cardiovascular Pathobiology  
Title: Is hypertension an inflammatory disease?  
Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences  
Chair: Professor Rhian Touyz  
[Watch a video of this lecture](#) (Note: apologies for the low sound level) |
| 14 Nov | **Professor Rory O’Connor** - Chair in Health Psychology  
Title: Understanding Suicidal Behaviour  
Institute of Health & Wellbeing  
Chair: Professor Jill Pell |
| 21    | **Professor Ruth Zadoks** - Professor in Molecular Epidemiology  
Title: Molecular Epidemiology - an Interdisciplinary Journey  
Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine  
Chair: Professor Dan Haydon |
|       | **Professor Jason Matthiopoulos** - Professor of Spatial and Population Ecology  
Title: Ecology: a predictive science  
Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine  
Chair: Professor Dan Haydon |
|       | **Professor Colin Selman** - Professor of Biogerontology |
Volunteer Marketplace, 1 October

A Volunteer Marketplace was set up for students in the School of Medicine to give them an opportunity to meet with a variety of organisations, related to health care, to enhance their learning experience and to give them an opportunity to volunteer. The Marketplace was held in the atrium of the Wolfson Medical School Building. This was a new venture and it was hosted by Nursing & Health Care. Students attended from nursing, dentistry and medicine.

15 organisations and well over 80 students attended. It was positively evaluated by both students and organisations with personal contacts being a key element as opposed to web interface. A total of 257 signatures were received by organisations indicating a willingness to volunteer or receive further information. Four organisations were student led. Overall the event proved worthwhile and we plan to repeat this next year.

- From Institutes

Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences:

Success at FASEB Conference for ICAMS: AMPK: Biological Action and Therapeutic Perspectives

The bi-annual FASE B-organised conference on AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK) was held in Lucca in the province of Tuscany, Italy in September. This year’s conference was attended by over 140 delegates, including Drs. Tim Palmer and Ian Salt (ICAMS) along with Diabetes UK-funded PhD student Claire Speirs and British Heart Foundation-funded PhD student Helen Heathcote. The conference included presentations from internationally renowned basic
and clinician scientists from around the world, with subjects ranging from studies of AMPK in vascular dysfunction through to its central role in co-ordinating cellular and organismal metabolism. Dr. Salt and Helen Heathcote were both selected to give oral presentations and at the close of the conference, Claire Speirs was awarded a US$300 Best Poster prize for her work describing the molecular mechanisms underlying the clinically important anti-inflammatory effects of AMPK activators.

Researchers use simple chemicals to minimise organ damage following heart attack and stroke

Research from Dr Lorraine Work’s group has contributed to a paper published in Nature. Tissue damage that occurs after a stroke or heart attack is caused by the disruption of blood flow (starving cells of oxygen) and the subsequent restoration of blood flow, and is known as ischaemia-reperfusion injury. In a collaborative study led by Dr Michael Murphy from the MRC Mitochondrial Biology Unit, University of Cambridge they have identified a number of metabolites that accumulate in tissues, culminating in the build-up of succinate, which they find is a primary driver of ischaemia-reperfusion injury across multiple organ systems. Lorraine and members of her group (Drs Emily Ord and Rachel Shirley) completed the experimental stroke studies using hypertensive rats thus providing brain material to support changes seen following ischaemia-reperfusion in heart, liver and kidney. Significantly, they further demonstrate that blocking the accumulation of succinate reduces ischaemia reperfusion injury both in rodent models of heart attack and stroke. Importantly, for the stroke studies, improvement was seen both in terms of reduced infarct but also neurological recovery.

Speaking about their involvement Lorraine says “It was very exciting to realise that the metabolite changes Mike had seen in the hearts was consistent with the profile from the brain following stroke. When Emily and Rachel began the stroke intervention study, here in Glasgow, to prevent the succinate accumulation we quickly realised the significance of what we were seeing when put together with the more mechanistic studies completed in Cambridge and elsewhere. The paper involved 11 labs across 3 countries - it was great to be part of such a significant study and this has consolidated an already excellent collaboration. We look forward to taking these findings further.”

Further information is available here:

http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v515/n7527/full/nature13909.html?WT.ec_id=NATURE-20141120


Adenovirus research podcasts

Andy Baker, BHF Professor of Translational Cardiovascular Sciences at ICAMs, currently coordinates two large Marie Curie FP7 funded research programmes; ADVEC and ADVance, and came up with the idea of recording an expert podcast series for each network. The early-stage and experienced researchers employed on both programmes conducted the podcast interviews with leading experts
in the field of adenovirus research from all around the world. We’re very pleased to be able to share
the series’ with a wider audience and offer expert insight, stories, opinions and advice from these
respected figures in the field.

- **Marie Curie IAPP ADVEC – “Adenovirus Vector Technology: Next Generation Systems for
Medical Therapy”** The exclusive ADVEC podcast series is entitled “ADENO-POD: CASTing the
science of adenovirus research” and all of the podcasts can be listened to via the ADVEC
website and/or by downloading and subscribing to the series on iTunes. Follow news about
ADVEC on Facebook: www.facebook.com/AdVecIAPP and on Twitter: twitter.com/AdVec_IAPP

- **Marie Curie ITN ADVance – “AdenoViruses as Novel Clinical Treatments”** The brand new
ADVance adenovirus podcast series is entitled “ADVancing the science of Adenovirus
research - hear from the experts”. All of the podcasts can be listened to via the ADVance
website and/or by downloading and subscribing to the series on iTunes. Follow news about
ADVance on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ADVanceITN and on Twitter: twitter.com/ADVance_ITN

**Institute of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation:**

**New EU research network to tackle *Escherichia coli* mastitis**

A new inter-disciplinary EU research network, co-ordinated by Professor David G E Smith,
has commenced recently. The network is funded through the ANIHWA scheme and aims to improve
understanding of bacterial and host factors involved in pathogenesis and immunity in dairy cow
mastitis caused by *E. coli*. Mastitis is one of the major disease challenges for dairy production and
this project brings together teams from University of Glasgow, Royal Veterinary College, INRA
(Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, France), University of Ghent, Belgium and Hebrew
University of Jerusalem, Israel in conjunction with an industry partner to conduct detailed genomic
characterisation of *E. coli* strains, contributions of selected bacterial factors to pathogenicity, innate
immune mechanisms and adaptive immune responses. The understanding gained in the course of
this 3-year project may lead to novel options for disease control.

**Active in Africa - Dr Annette MacLeod**

Wellcome Trust Centre for Molecular Parasitology principal investigator
and Wellcome Trust senior fellow **Dr Annette MacLeod** recently
attended the 5th annual meeting of The Human Heredity and Health in
Africa (H3 Africa) consortium held in Tanzania. The H3 Africa initiative
aims to facilitate a contemporary research approach to the study of
genomics and environmental determinants of common diseases with the
goal of improving health of African populations. H3 Africa is funded by a
partnership between the US National Institutes of Health an agency of
the US Dept of Health and Human Services and the Wellcome Trust. Dr
MacLeod is a founding member of one of the Wellcome Trust funded
networks named TrypanoGEN whose aim is to investigate human susceptibility to African sleeping
sickness. Whilst in Tanzania Dr MacLeod promoted the Wellcome Trust Liverpool Glasgow Centre for Global Health Research and took the time to drop some charity donations collected from colleagues in Glasgow to the Children Concern Foundation and orphanage in Ngorongoro, Tanzania.

Dr MacLeod said “Our established H3 Africa network on TrypanoGEN is now building important collaborations, developments, training and capacity around the area of human African Trypanosomiasis. The next stage of this process was undertaken at the recent H3 Africa meeting in Tanzania where we are now starting to develop new collaborations across the different areas of the H3 Africa programmes for example exciting and novel collaborations with the H3 Africa kidney disease network”

**Communications Coffee Club**

The Communications Working Group within the Institute of Infection Immunity and Inflammation have launched a series of monthly Communications Coffee Club meetings. The events are aimed at keeping internal communication and collaboration high on the agenda within the Institute. The Institute along with the Wellcome Trust Centre for Molecular Parasitology (WTCMP) recently won the 2014 Glasgow Business award for Excellence in Communication.

**Alex Mackay**, administrator of WTCMP and chair of the Institute Communications working group said “Whilst our recent award was essentially for our excellence in all our external communication our coffee club meetings are aimed at boosting internal communications within our Institute”.

The next meeting of the Communications Coffee Club will take place on Friday, 19th December, from 10 -11am in level 2 common room, Sir Graeme Davies Building.

**Goodbye to Church St**

In October, the last of the CVR Church St staff packed up their belongings and equipment and moved to the Sir Michael Stoker Building.

Many staff have spent a significant part of their careers at the Church Street site, which was established by Sir Michael Stoker as the Institute of Virology in the early 1960s.

For many, it's a very fond and sad farewell to a building that's played an important role in their lives and we'd like to share some photographs before we all say goodbye for the last time.

**Paper published in Circulation by Dr Pasquale Maffia’s group**
An international collaboration between Dr Pasquale Maffia’s group (Centre for Immunobiology), Prof Boris Reizis (Columbia University), Prof Goran Hansson (Karolinska Institute), Prof Stephanie Hugues (University of Geneva) and Prof Ziad Mallat (University of Cambridge) sheds light on the pivotal role played by plasmacytoid dendritic cells (pDCs) in vascular disease.

The immune system plays a key role in atherosclerosis, the underlying cause of heart attack and stroke. Consequently, current research is focused on understanding what drives this inflammation and how it is regulated. Plasmacytoid dendritic cells represent a unique subset of dendritic cells, which play distinct and critical roles in the immune response. They are sensors of viral products and are best known for their role in combating viral infection. Intriguingly, they are also present in atherosclerotic vessels, but their role in this disease remained to be fully clarified. Here by using recently developed genetic mouse models the team have conclusively shown a proatherogenic role for pDCs in atherosclerosis and identified a critical role for MHC class II-restricted antigen presentation by pDCs in driving proatherogenic T cell immunity. The results shed new light on the role of adaptive immune responses in atherosclerosis and may have implications for the design of specific therapeutic strategies. This work is supported by the British Heart Foundation. Sage et al. Circulation. 2014;130:1363-73.

**HCV Research UK Reaches Early Milestone**

A cohort study collecting clinical data and samples from patients infected with hepatitis C virus (HCV) has reached an early milestone, having recruited 10,000 patients ahead of their target date.

In 2011, HCV Research UK was awarded £1.92M by the Medical Research Foundation to establish a national cohort of HCV-infected patients along with a supporting infrastructure to collect data and samples from each patient.

John McLauchlan, Associate Director of the MRC-University of Glasgow Centre for Virus Research, who co-chairs HCV
Research UK, said: “This project was founded out of a desire to set up a resource that would provide opportunities for the research community to have ready access to data and samples to tackle the problems we face with HCV infection in the UK. Year on year, there are growing numbers of people who develop serious liver disease as a result of carrying the virus. The longer they are infected, the greater the risk that they will go on to develop liver failure, liver cancer or need a transplant. Research that studies both how the virus causes disease and responds to treatment will ultimately help to guide clinicians in their care of patients and the options they will be able to offer.”

Fast track Bluetongue vaccine could save millions for the European Economy

http://jvi.asm.org/content/88/21/12222.full

In a study published in the Journal of Virology, scientists from the MRC-University of Glasgow Centre for Virus Research, in collaboration with Merial Animal Health describe a new and cost effective method that allows the production of a reliable type of inactivated Bluetongue virus (BTV) vaccine using a “synthetic biology” approach. This method doesn’t rely on the use of live, infectious virus and could mean that it is safer than other types of vaccines.

BTV is spread to cattle, sheep and some other wild ruminants by a type of midge. Infected animals experience a range of symptoms, which are fatal in some cases. There are also indirect impacts including weight loss and reduced milk production.

Synthetic vaccines offer many benefits compared to the vaccines traditionally used to control BTV, but perhaps the most important is the speed with which they can be designed and produced – around 6 months faster. This breakthrough means that a reliable product could become available more quickly following the detection of an outbreak caused by a newly emerging BTV strain.

Institute of Neuroscience and Psychology

Launch of Youth Mental Health Risk and Resilience Study (YouR-Study)

An international conference to launch the Youth Mental Health Risk and Resilience Study (YouR-Study) was held on 11 September 2014 in the Senate Room, organised by Dr Peter Uhlhaas. The YouR-Study is funded by the Medical Research Council (MRC) and seeks to understand the factors that protect adolescents and young adults from developing serious mental health problems and those which will predispose individuals towards developing psychosis. The one-day conference provided a state-of-the-art overview on early intervention in psychosis from
a range of perspectives. For further information about the YouR-Study, please visit: http://www.your-study.org.uk/.

Continued Development of SINAPSE Network

Funding of £635k over the next 5 years has been announced to continue the already successful SINAPSE network and Professor Keith Muir, SINAPSE Chair of Clinical Imaging will lead the new round of funding.

SINAPSE was established in 2007 as an academic pooling group. It is supported by SFC, CSO, and the Universities of Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Dundee, St Andrews and Stirling. The field of activity is imaging based research in medicine, cognitive neuroscience and psychology. The achievements have been well documented in Annual Reports and include provision of multi-centre support for graduate students, boosting grant income for participating Universities, setting up and running technical coordination JISCmail systems, sharing expertise in PET tracer development, developing novel MRI techniques, and devising and sharing novel image analysis procedures. SINAPSE has helped to link academic and NHS research involving medical imaging, has established many joint projects with other pools, in particular ScotCHEM and SUPA, and has established KE activity with many industrial partners.

The new funding will contribute towards core posts and activities to support the network going forward. More details will follow in upcoming newsletters.

Daphne Jackson Fellow

Dr Elaine Hunter has recently joined the Institute of Neuroscience and Psychology as a Daphne Jackson Fellow sponsored by Medical Research Scotland.

Elaine says “I am delighted to be working with Dr Stuart Cobb and Dr Mark Bailey investigating the metabolic resilience of neuronal activity in Rett Syndrome. Rett Syndrome primarily results from mutations in the gene encoding the nuclear protein MeCP2 (methyl-CpG-binding protein 2). I will focus on how MeCP2 mutations alter the relationship between neuronal excitability and mitochondrial function.

My career has primarily focused on the interplay between membrane potential, calcium stores and contractility in smooth muscle, however for the past number of years I have been on a career break, due to family commitments. During this time I worked as freelance writer and science communicator. The desire to return to research proved too strong however, and the flexibility and support provided by the Daphne Jackson Fellowship has given me the opportunity to balance a challenging research project with an individually tailored retraining programme, enabling me to effectively return to research (www.daphnejackson.org)”. 
Dr Stuart Cobb Research Group: http://cobb.inp.gla.ac.uk/

Institute of Health and Wellbeing

PGR Students blog
IHAWKES (Institute of Health and Wellbeing Knowledge Exchange Students) is a fortnightly blog established in June 2014 by postgraduate research students. The regular contributors write on three broad themes: current research; methodological challenges; health-related current affairs. Most recent posts are on starting your PhD. http://ihawkes.academicblogs.co.uk/

Institute of Molecular, Cell and Systems Biology

Postgraduate Biomolecular Science Society

PBSS is a student run society set up in summer 2014 aimed at postgraduate students within the Institute of Molecular, Cell and Systems Biology to encourage postgraduates to meet other like minded people. Our aim is to hold regular social events, a colloquium style journal club, scientific debates and create opportunities for students to practice their presentation skills and enhance their technical skills here at Glasgow. Everyone is welcome to join; membership costs £2 for the academic year 2014-2015. To keep up to date with our events you can email us at PBSS@glasgow.ac.uk or check out our website: http://postgraduatesciencesociety.weebly.com

Institute of Cancer Sciences

LLR TAP extension

We are delighted to announce that the Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research Trials Acceleration Programme (LLR TAP) has been extended by up to 5 years (subject to renewal after 2 years). The Beatson West of Scotland Cancer Centre / University of Glasgow is one of 13 LLR TAP centres in the UK and the only centre in Scotland. This innovative programme, led by Professor Mhairi Copland in Glasgow, supports the development and delivery of early phase clinical trials for patients with blood cancers. The LLR TAP initiative has been running since 2012 and is supporting several ongoing clinical trials in acute and chronic myeloid leukaemias, myeloproliferative disorders and lymphoma locally with more trials across a spectrum of blood cancers in the pipeline. The funding provided here in Glasgow includes research nurse and data management support.

From Schools

School of Medicine:
Medical student presentations at International Conference

Kevin Duncan, Zahra Hussain, Juen Chan and Simonas Makstusis (Year 5) from the School of Medicine were fortunate enough to present an array of their work at AMEE (Association for Medical Educators in Europe) in Milan this summer. Since completing their SSC entitled ‘An Introduction to Research in Medical Education” in Year 4 they have been involved in several related projects in the field of medical education. Their work in the SSC involved both a systematic review on the correlation of learning strategies and secondary factors associated with academic performance in medical school and qualitative and quantitative studies of examination preparedness and academic performance in medical students. The students continue to be involved in the field of research in medical education and are currently submitting their work to peer-reviewed journals in the field. They also hope to present more of their work at the AMEE conference returning to Glasgow in September 2015. They were fortunate enough to receive substantial financial support from the college in these endeavours and thoroughly enjoyed the experience and opportunity it brought them. They would like to extend their thanks to Dr James Boyle and Professor Matthew Walters in the medical school for their ongoing support and enthusiasm.

Other news

Ill helps raise money for cancer patients in Pakistan

As everyone is aware, cancer is a devastating disease affecting millions worldwide. The disease burden is immense and heart-breaking for victims and families alike. To further add to the challenges cancer presents, due to financial difficulties or distances to a hospital - sufferers in developing countries like Pakistan can often go without treatment or receive minimal treatment. One of the few facilities specialised in offering care to cancer patients is "The Shaukat Khanum Memorial Hospital" Lahore Pakistan. This hospital was established in memory of
Shaukat Khanum, mother of the cricket player Imran Khan. The facility provides excellent, quality care either entirely free to approximately 7000 cancer patients annually or subsided to all patients.

Researchers at the III are not only involved in cancer research, but also come together when it is about helping cancer patients. This time, they showed their generosity for raising funds for Shaukat Khanum Cancer hospital by helping arrange bake sales at III, Western Infirmary, Yorkhill Children’s Hospital and the Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Several delicacies from around the world were prepared. Everyone who attended these events enjoyed the fine food and donated generously. We have raised more than £2900 for the cause. We would like to thank everyone who participated.

McMillan Coffee Morning
IHW recently organised a McMillan Coffee Morning and were delighted to raise over £400! We would like to say thank you to all those who contributed baking, bottles, mug hugs and those who came along and spent all their hard earned money. Thank you to Rachel Allan, Diana Carstens and Audrey Dickie for organising the event, and special thanks to Dorothy Donald at the Robertson Centre for Biostatistics, amongst others, for her wonderful baking.

Graduate School Festive Fun!
The MVLS Graduate School held an office Christmas decoration competition. Competition was fierce, but was won by Catherine Turnbull, Office Manager. Catherine’s decoration is the one with a ‘GS’ for Graduate School.

- Newsletter feedback

The quarterly College Newsletter welcomes submissions from all MVLS staff and honorary staff. Articles should be up to 200 words long, and it would be helpful to include an accompanying photograph/graphic (in jpeg format where possible). Please send your articles, feedback on the Newsletter, ideas and suggestions, to mvls-newsletter@glasgow.ac.uk. Thank you!