

## Paterson Welcomes New Students



Issue 17 - December 2009

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# Director's Introduction



The very positive feedback and results of the Paterson's Quinquennial Review carried out by Cancer Research UK (CR-UK) this summer highlighted the progress we have made at the Paterson over the past five years. We are now planning for the next five years to continue with the upward trend and reinforce our position as a world-class research centre. These plans include continued investment in basic research but also enhancement of the Paterson's translational research capabilities to ensure that outputs from fundamental investigations deliver tangible benefits for patients. To this end, we have an active programme for group leader recruitment and for improvement of facilities. This autumn we welcomed

Professor Jonas Bergh from the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, a world expert in breast cancer research. Professor Bergh has been appointed to the Muriel Edith Rickman Chair in Breast Oncology within the University's School of Cancer and Imaging and will interact widely with various groups at the Paterson. We look forward to his input and high-level contributions into the Institute and MCRC research efforts.

One major improvement project is the renovation of laboratory facilities for the Drug Discovery Centre which should be completed before the end of 2009. Continued investment in research services to support a growing research base is also planned. CR-UK commits considerable annual support to the Paterson Institute and, over the next five years, will be investing significantly in capital projects in Manchester, including some £4.2 million for the early phase clinical trial unit which is part of The Christie's exciting new treatment centre. In addition, discussions focussing on a new research build on the Kinnaid Road site are already advanced. These projects would not be possible without the immense fundraising efforts of CR-UK. Their special fundraising team will play a crucial role in identifying new fundraising opportunities in the North West, given the substantial investment in the region. In this Newsletter, we welcome Julia Wright, Major Donor Manager for CR-UK and Martyn Bottomley, Project Development Manager for Cancer Research Technology Limited to the Paterson.

Raising awareness of the challenge of cancer and the profile of the Paterson in meeting this challenge is an integral part of the fundraising drive. This month (October), Andrew Lansley CBE MP for South Cambridgeshire and Shadow Secretary of State for Health, and Mark Simmonds MP for Boston and Skegness in Lincolnshire and Shadow Minister of State for Health visited the Paterson. They were given a tour of the Institute and its facilities, met with Paterson staff and also heard about planned improvements. They now have a personal experience of the Paterson and the relevance of the research we carry out to take back and share with colleagues.

Our annual colloquium is a much-anticipated and important event that promotes interaction and communication amongst Paterson researchers and fosters a culture of collaboration. Held in Ambleside, the event is also particularly valuable for students, with second-year students presenting their projects to their peers and to experienced Paterson researchers – a potentially daunting prospect. For new students, the colloquium is often their first experience of the Paterson and it demonstrates the demanding but equally rewarding environment that they are now a part of. This Newsletter highlights some of the Paterson's most recent achievements and plans. We hope to bring you further updates as we continue to make sustained progress.

**Nic Jones**  
Director

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# DNA Damage Response Group

by Ivan Ahel, Group Leader



Our genome is constantly exposed to various types of DNA damage, both endogenous and exogenous. It has been estimated that the DNA in every cell of our body suffers thousands of lesions per day, which, if left unattended, can lead to mutations or cell death. Luckily, our cells have evolved a variety of mechanisms to repair the DNA, and these mechanisms are normally sufficient to sustain genome stability. Yet, inherited or acquired defects of DNA repair genes in some individuals can notably decrease the efficiency and fidelity of repair reactions, which may lead to diseases such as neurodegeneration, immunodeficiency or cancer.

Genomic instability is the driving force of cancer development, which requires multiple DNA mutations resulting in loss of cellular growth control. To accelerate the accumulation of genetic changes, cancers often sacrifice specific DNA repair pathways, which in turn can be exploited as an Achilles heel of cancer. This means that the genetic damage that builds up in cancer cells makes them susceptible to treatment with certain DNA damaging agents, or to treatments that block alternative DNA repair pathways, while normal cells with a full repair repertoire are readily much less sensitive. Thus, understanding the molecular basis of DNA repair and the mechanisms of their inactivation in cancer is of vital importance for selecting and developing efficient therapies.

My lab is utilising biochemical and cell-based assays to study mammalian DNA repair pathways. We are particularly interested

in pathways and protein functions regulated by poly(ADP-ribosyl)ation. Poly(ADP-ribosyl)ation is a posttranslational protein modification employed in regulation of DNA repair, chromatin structure, mitosis, transcription and apoptosis. Poly(ADP-ribose) is synthesised by the PARP family of enzymes, which use NAD as a substrate. The recent development of potent specific PARP inhibitors provides powerful tools to study pathways regulated by poly(ADP-ribose), as well as providing one of the most promising class of drugs for treatment of various types of cancer. Our studies are focused on the identification and characterization of novel pathways/protein functions regulated by poly(ADP-ribosyl)ation and determining whether they can be targeted for treatment of cancer.

I obtained my BSc and MSc in Biology at the University of Zagreb, Croatia in 1997 and 2000 respectively, before undertaking a PhD in Biology with thesis work carried out at Yale University, USA, between 2000–2003. My undergraduate and PhD research experience includes the regulation of the DNA damage response in actinomycetes and studies of the mechanisms ensuring the fidelity of protein biosynthesis. In 2004 I joined Cancer Research UK at the London Research Institute as a Post-doctoral Fellow in Stephen West's group investigating the roles of several novel DNA break repair factors. Since January 2009 I have been here at the Paterson Institute for Cancer Research leading the DNA Damage Response Group.

# The Paterson Institute Welcomes the Class of '09



## Filippo Ciceri

Hi everyone my name is Filippo. I took my masters degree in Medical Biotechnology in Italy in the cloudy city of Turin where I was born. Here in the even cloudier Manchester I started my Phd in September in the Leukemia Biology group. I greatly appreciate the stimulating and friendly environment and the possibility to undertake experiments with many different lab techniques. In my spare time I try to cook Italian food and I enjoy running whilst trying to avoid all of the people walking as well as the cars driving on the right hand side!



## Brigit Greystoke.

Hi, I'm Brigit and I started in the leukaemia biology lab in August. I graduated in medicine from Edinburgh in 2000 and for the last 5 years I've been training as a clinical haematologist. Altogether I've worked in 15 hospitals in the UK and New Zealand. I'm now an LRF clinical research fellow studying ALL and so far it's been a steep but really interesting learning curve; the environment here is fantastic, which is just as well as this will be the first time I've ever spent 3 years working in the same building!



## Emily Holmes

Hi, I'm originally from Nottinghamshire but have just moved to Manchester from Leeds where I completed my undergraduate degree in Genetics. In September I started my PhD in the Cell Regulation group and my project is based on studying the regulation of *Sty1* by phosphatases in *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*. I am looking forward to getting to know everyone at the Paterson Institute and learning about the science here. So far I have enjoyed exploring the city of Manchester and I am looking forward to my time here.



## Xiaowen Hu

Hi, my name is Xiaowen Hu and I am from China. I did my undergraduate study in molecular biology at University College London. After graduation I continued to work as a research assistant in MRC molecular biology laboratory to study the function of nuclear inositides and found this area really interesting. Now I am doing my PhD in the Inositide lab here in the Paterson to study nuclear phosphoinositide and their roles in cancer.



## Kalena Marti Marti

Hi, I'm Kalena. I am originally from Spain but I've been living and working in the UK for a few years. I'm training as a medical oncologist and I recently joined CEP as a CR-UK/AZ clinical research fellow. For my PhD project, I'll be studying a panel of angiogenesis biomarkers in patients with colorectal cancer having different treatment modalities.



**Andrzej Mazan**

Hi, my name is Andrzej Mazan and I am from Krakow, Poland. I graduated in biotechnology and gained a double diploma from The Jagiellonian University in Krakow and The University of Orleans, France. I've started my PhD in the Stem Cell Haematopoiesis group and will be investigating the role of Sox7 gene in blood commitment. I'm glad to be a member of Paterson family and I really enjoy staying here.

**Milena Mazan**

Hello, my name is Milena Mazan. I have just finished my Master's Degree in biotechnology this year and got double diploma from The Jagiellonian University in Krakow and The University of Orleans, France. I am starting now my PhD project concerning characterization of haemogenic endothelium with Stem Cell Biology group. I am happy to be at The Paterson Institute, where I have the possibility to develop and gain experience in many advanced techniques. I am sure I will enjoy working and living in Manchester.

**Pawan Mehrotra**

I am from New Delhi, India where I completed my BSc in Biomedical Science and subsequently a Masters in Genetics from University of Delhi. I am pleased to be a part of Dr Ivan Ahel's DNA Damage Response Lab and look forward to taking part in lots of exciting research.

**Sharmin Naaz**

Hello, I'm Sharmin. I am originally from Kolkata in India. I did my undergraduate degree in bonny Scotland in Aberdeen, my Industrial Placement at AstraZeneca and then went on to a Masters at Imperial College. My PhD at the Paterson is with Crispin Miller and Valerie Kouskoff and will involve investigating the role of non-coding RNAs in haematopoiesis.

**Yisu Wang**

Hi, I am from China and have just finished my undergraduate degree in biochemistry at Bristol University. I am doing a 4 year PhD in the Cell Division group. My project uses fission yeast as a model eukaryote to study protein kinases that regulate cell division. I think that The Paterson Institute is a great place to pursue a career in biological science and look forward to my time here.

## Behind the Scenes: Directing operations at The Paterson and MCRC



In this, the first in a series of articles discussing the MCRC initiative we talk to Pippa McNichol about her role as director of operations.

**Paterson Newsletter:** How long have you worked at the Institute now?

Pippa McNichol: I joined the Paterson in November 2003 as Associate Director of Administration, during what was a particularly busy period as the Institute prepared for the Cancer Research UK Quinquennial Review which took place in July 2004.

**Paterson Newsletter:** Prior to working here, where were you based?

Pippa McNichol: I was Director of Resources & Administration for the School of Health & Social Sciences at Middlesex University in London. I had lived in London for 13 years and although I had really enjoyed living and working there, it felt like it was time to come back up north. I had undertaken my first degree in Manchester and had fallen in love with the city when I was a student and so when the opportunity at the Paterson arose, it really did feel like I was coming home.

**Paterson Newsletter:** You mentioned the Institute review in 2004 -did the outcome of this review have a major impact on the MCRC concept?

Pippa McNichol: Yes, it was following discussions that took place during the review that the partnership between The Christie NHS Foundation Trust, The University of Manchester, the Paterson and Cancer Research UK (CR-UK) was formalised, leading to the official launch of the MCRC in November 2005.

**Paterson Newsletter:** What was your role during the early stages of the process?

Pippa McNichol: The first step in the formation of the MCRC was the legal transfer of the Paterson Institute from The Christie to the University of Manchester. The Paterson is not a legal entity in its own right and so had always 'belonged' to the Christie. Transferring the Paterson to the University meant that the Paterson could access Higher Education government funding, which was not possible whilst we were part of the NHS. This funding would then be used to finance the MCRC's activities.

I was responsible for the transfer, which was an incredibly painstaking and detailed piece of work. It was important that

the interests of the Paterson were protected, whilst at the same time ensuring that both The University and The Christie (and their respective legal teams) were happy with the terms of the transfer. Internally, I also needed to ensure I had the agreement of the staff and the unions and so I was holding regular meetings to ensure that everyone was kept fully briefed. I was very pleased that we were able to complete our transfer in just nine months whereas normally this kind of transfer can take up to 18 months.

In March 2006 I was appointed as Director of Operations of the MCRC and the Paterson. This joint post emphasises the commitment that PICR has to the MCRC and also helped the early development of the MCRC.

**Paterson Newsletter:** Presumably this was quite a busy time then?

Pippa McNichol: Being responsible for overseeing the transfer of the Paterson and co-ordinating this with the setting up of the MCRC was certainly complex; however it was also a very stimulating experience. At the same time my role within the Institute also had to be maintained, so it was a case of carefully balancing the two roles.

**Paterson Newsletter:** This year you were involved in the second Institute review. During that period your role for the Paterson Institute must have been particularly demanding?

Pippa McNichol: The Institute Review is a really exciting opportunity to showcase the work of the Institute and my role was to help co-ordinate all the paperwork required by CR-UK for the review and to ensure that the Institute was looking its best. It gave me an excuse to revamp parts of the building that hadn't been decorated for many years, overhaul the main stairs and redesign the toilets (a main bugbear of many staff). I also organised a joint art project with Sale Grammar School – the 'Art Meets Science' challenge which resulted in many of the children's artwork being displayed upon our walls.

**Paterson Newsletter:** What will the next steps be towards establishing the new MCRC building?

Pippa McNichol: Once the funding for the first phase is confirmed and the land negotiations are finalised between The Christie and The University then we can start work on the full business case and begin the design phase. We did much of the preparatory work on the content of the building a couple of years ago and produced a feasibility study last year and so I am looking forward to working with my colleagues at The University and The Christie again on the actual design. I will also be working with my fundraising colleagues in each organisation to oversee a joint fundraising campaign

## Curriculum Vitae

### Name:

Pippa McNichol

### Position:

Director of Operations, Paterson Institute for Cancer Research  
Director of Operations, Manchester Cancer Research Centre

### Education:

1988 BA (Hons) Theology/Religious Studies, University of Manchester  
2001 Executive MBA, London Metropolitan University

### Career History:

1991 Project Manager, The Food Chain, HIV Charity  
1994 Fundraising co-ordinator, Red Admiral Project, HIV Charity  
1994 Non-Executive Director, Milton House Trust, drug Charity  
1995 HIV/AIDS Service Manager Enfield Community Care NHS Trust  
1997 Project Manager, Forensic Psychiatry, Enfield Community Care NHS Trust  
1998 Assistant General Manager, North London NHS, Education and Training Consortium  
2000 Director of Resources and Admin, School of Health, Biological and Environmental Sciences, Middlesex University  
2002 Director of Resources and Admin, School of Health and Social Sciences, Middlesex University  
2003 Associate Director of Administration, Paterson Institute  
2006 Director of Operations, Paterson Institute for Cancer Research  
Director of Operations, Manchester Cancer Research Centre

### Professional Interests:

1989 Trustee Manchester AIDSline  
1994 Non-Executive Director, Milton House Trust - drug charity  
2001 Chair Milton House Trust  
2002 Vice Chair Odyssey Trust, Drug Charity  
2002 Non-Executive Director, Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
2005 Non-Executive Director, Rodney Housing Association  
2008 Non-Executive Director, Liverpool Housing Trust

# Prestigious Awards for Two Paterson Group Leaders

Iain Hagan, EMBO Fellow



Congratulations go to Iain Hagan who has recently been elected as an EMBO member, EMBO membership is a lifelong honour with new members nominated and elected annually, based on proven excellence in research. Sixty six leading life scientists were granted membership this year from all over the world.



"The election once again puts a spotlight on the most outstanding representatives of the current generation of life

scientists. We look forward to the fresh impulses this exceptional group will bring to our organisation"

Hermann Bujard, EMBO Executive Director

EMBO funding, training and networking activities impact thousands of scientists every year, promoting collaboration in all areas of molecular biology. The EMBO membership will no doubt bring recognition to both Iain and the Institute, providing new research opportunities through links with leading scientists in Europe and worldwide.

Karim Labib, Hooke Medal



The British Society for Cell Biology recently voted Karim Labib the winner of the Hooke Medal for 2010. The medal is presented at the annual spring meeting, where Karim will be speaking next year. The Hooke medal is awarded to an emerging leader in cell biology, and it is a testament to Karim's work and reputation that he should be a worthy recipient.

The Hooke Medal award has been in existence for 10 years now, and Karim's success this year means that the Paterson Institute has now had three winners of this award (previous winners being Iain Hagan in 2001 and Elmar Schiebel in 2004).



The prestigious medal shows the first recorded microscope which Robert Hooke famously used to observe cork cells, leading him to be

the first person to appreciate the cellular nature of all living organisms. Today the BSCB exists to promote the advance of research in all branches of cell biology and particularly to encourage open discussion and information exchange.

## Nominations for the Dexter Award are Now Invited

The Dexter Award for young scientists recognises the most impressive scientific achievement of the year. If you would like to nominate a young scientist i.e a student, early phase postdoc or scientific officer, please submit a side of A4 to Pippa McNichol for consideration by a small panel chosen by Nic Jones. The prize is £500 and will be awarded at the Paterson's Xmas party on Wednesday 16 December.

**The closing date for submissions is Monday 7 December.**





# Movember: Raising Awareness of Prostate Cancer

Movember is a month-long celebration into the art of moustache growing and is aimed at raising awareness of men's health issues and in particular prostate cancer.

On 1st November all participants start clean shaven and then have the remainder of the month to grow and groom their moustache. Along the way each participant raises money for The Prostate Cancer Charity, as well as becoming a walking billboard for men's health. It is a little known fact that one man dies every hour of prostate cancer in the UK alone. As a direct

result of Movember, over £30 million has been raised globally for the fight against prostate cancer.

Here at the Paterson Institute, the gents in the Inositide Laboratory and Leukaemia Biology research groups are cultivating their "Mo's" in a fundraising drive that has raised over £1,000 for The Prostate Cancer Charity. At the end of November there will be a "MoFest" event, a final fundraising drive that includes a shaving auction and moustache-themed fancy dress.

## IT Update – Paterson Goes Wireless

The IT Department are pleased to announce the Institute's wireless network is now available.

The wireless network provides network connectivity in meeting rooms and communal areas (e.g. the coffee room) and provides blanket coverage to all floors from the basement up to the third floor.

The primary wireless network (PICR staff only) provides wireless access to all the Institute's network resources. The second wireless service is to provide visitors with an Internet only, unsecured, wireless connection.

PICR laptops will automatically connect to the wireless network if a wired connection is not available and their radio is switched on. Visitor wireless access can be requested via the visitor form on the Intranet.

All users must note that the PICR wireless is strictly monitored and must familiarise themselves with the IT Policy before using the wireless network.



# Thousands Invited to Shine for Cancer Research UK

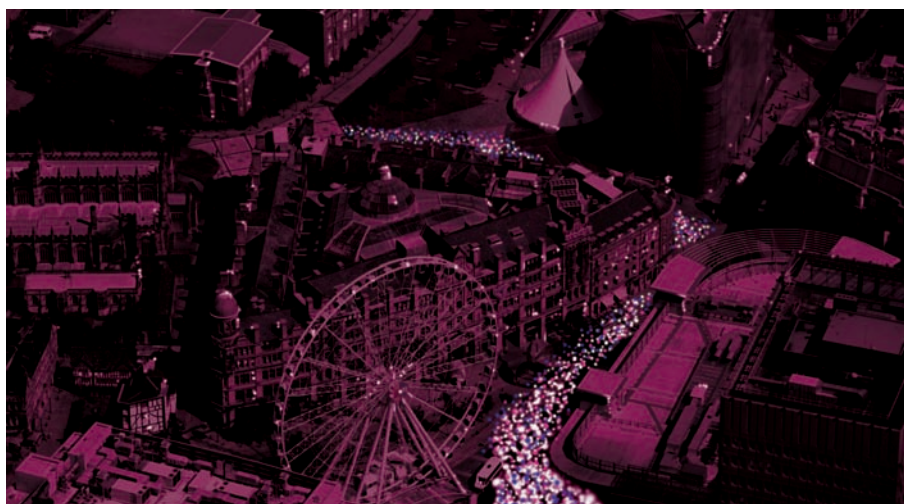


CANCER Research UK's newest fundraising event is set to take place on the night of 17 April 2010, Shine will see the city of Manchester illuminated as 5,000 people take to the streets in an inspirational procession of light, passing Old Trafford, Manchester Town Hall and our very own Paterson Institute.

Not only is Shine the first event of its kind for the charity, it also gives participants the opportunity to choose which type of cancer research they would like to direct their fundraising efforts. There are 12 different research areas including breast, lung, and prostate, as well as an option to fundraise for research into all types of cancer, allowing walkers to fundraise for a cancer which has touched them.

Every walker will be given a back sign, coloured to represent the cancer they are fundraising for, where messages in memory and celebration of loved ones who have been affected by cancer can be written as well as hopes for the future.

SHINE is open to all men and women aged over 16 and entrants can choose to walk either a 26 or 13 mile route when they sign up online at [www.cancerresearchuk.org/shine](http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/shine).



# The Newsletter Interview

In this issue we talk to Allan Jordan who has joined the newly established Drug Discovery Group.

SP: Hi, and welcome to the Paterson Institute, although you have actually been here before haven't you?

Allan: Thanks for the welcome, and yes, that's right. As part of my Ph.D. studies at UMIST (now part of the University), I spent about 20% of my time here at the Paterson.

SP: How long have you been on site and how have you found it so far?

Allan: I started in late July, so about nine weeks ago now. It's interesting being back, seeing how some things have changed and how others still feel very familiar. It's good to see a few familiar faces around as I learn who everyone else is! It's also great to be back in what used to be my old lab, seeing it being re-fitted for the new group.



SP: Could you explain what your role will be in the Drug Discovery Group?

Allan: I'll be heading up the chemistry group, so I'll be responsible for recruiting our staff, equipping the labs and, ultimately, the design and synthesis of new potential drug candidates. Along with the rest of the team, I'll be liaising with our biology colleagues in the group to see how well these compounds work in our assays and disease models. I'm also closely involved with triaging possible new drug targets, to determine which areas the group will work in.

SP: Are there fundamental differences between chemists and biologists in approach to science?

Allan: That's a tricky one! I think, on a basic level, no. We all deal with chemicals, interacting with one another, but perceive these interactions from different viewpoints. Chemists use these interactions primarily to construct compounds whereas biologists use them to understand molecular processes. But I think we're all driven by logical experimentation, rational interpretation of data and a desire to understand what's actually going on at that molecular level.

SP: Will there be some particular challenges to being the only group of chemists in a cancer research institute?

Allan: I think communication is key. Like all sciences, chemistry has its own unique branch of terminology and language that can seem pretty intractable to the non-chemist. Hopefully, we can go some way to help demystify what we do and how we describe it. And I'm sure the chemists will also find some of the biological terminology equally challenging to get to grips with!

SP: If there was one point you would like to get across to biologists what would it be?

Allan: Our doors are very much open for discussions around the work going on here, to see where we can help out in turning biological discoveries into potential treatments. It's never too early to come and start discussing ideas around new ways we can perhaps interfere with tumour progression and survival.



# New Plaques to Commemorate Generous Donors

by Tom Southgate

Two new plaques have recently been erected in the reception stairwell in recognition of two donations recently received by Cancer Research UK for the Institute.

The Zochonis Charitable Trust plaque is erected in recognition of their donation of £150,000 which was put towards the purchase of the Cell Tracks Analyser II (found in CEP). Sir John Zochonis is a former Army lieutenant who ran Stockport-based PZ Cussons formerly known as Paterson Zochonis for 20 years.

The second plaque was left following a gift from Clifford Schofield in his will. Pictured below are Clifford's wife Jean Schofield, his son Peter and Jim Hall from Cancer Research UK's fundraising committee in Turton, who recently visited the Institute to see the plaque and deliver the cheque.

Clifford Schofield supported his wife in her time on the Turton Local Committee (over 20 years). She is currently the president



and still very active and supportive of both the committee and Cancer Research UK. The Turton Local Committee were formed 25 years ago and have raised in excess of £150k.

## MP Visit

By Jon Spiers



Mark Simmonds MP, Harpal Kumar CR-UK, Andrew Lansley MP

Two senior Conservative MPs toured Cancer Research UK's Paterson Institute for Cancer Research and The Christie in October to learn more about the groundbreaking work of local researchers and doctors to beat cancer.

Andrew Lansley MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Health, and Mark Simmonds MP, Shadow Minister of State for Health, visited the Institute during the Conservative Party Conference in central

Manchester, they were then taken to visit the building site of the New Cancer Treatment Centre at The Christie.

Andrew Lansley MP said: "This visit has been a great opportunity to see the world class research being carried out here in Manchester. This new treatment centre will build on the already impressive research and treatment achievements of Cancer Research UK and the Christie.

"By linking research and treatment in new ways, we can help improve outcomes for cancer patients across the UK."

Harpal Kumar said: "I am very pleased that Andrew Lansley MP and Mark Simmonds MP have been able to visit our institute to find out not just about the work we undertake but also about how we're planning for the future. It is crucial that politicians and decision makers are aware of Britain's place at the forefront of medical research worldwide and that they help us maintain our research excellence."



# Paterson Photography Competition

Congratulations to Vitaly Latypov who was declared the overall winner of the 2009 photo competition. Many deserving entries were received and judged and 19 of the photos entered will be framed and displayed in the coffee room.

Thank you to all who entered, the quality and variety of the photos submitted this year was outstanding.



# 2009 Colloquium Poster Competition

As always at the colloquium a panel of judges look at the posters and select one which stands out as being of particularly high quality. This year there were two winners: Marisa Alonso-Nunez of Cell Division and Bill Harris of Leukaemia Biology.

Marisa's poster, entitled "Role of the SPB Component Sid4 in Regulating Entry into Mitosis" describes work carried out by Marisa on the protein Sid4 and its interaction with Plol, the polo kinase (a protein highly expressed in many cancers), in the fission yeast. During the normal life cycle of a cell, entry into mitosis (the process of cellular division and replication) is a highly complex but very carefully controlled event. Marisa's work on altered versions of Sid4 is helping to characterize its role in detail and has shown that this protein has a specific and important role in entry into mitosis, which has not previously been described because Sid4 is a protein that is part of the network that controls the exit from mitosis.

The poster from Bill, "Aberrant Epigenetic Regulation and Self Renewal in Acute Myeloid Leukaemia Stem Cells" details his work studying genetic changes in Acute Myeloid Leukaemia that may lead to novel opportunities for therapies. Leukaemia cells in laboratory cultures are normally able to form distinct colonies,



which represent a reliable surrogate for leukaemic expansion within the body. Bill has shown that by preventing expression of three particular genes, Arid2, RuvBl1 and Aof2, it is possible to reduce the ability of leukaemic cells to form these colonies in the laboratory. Further work is underway to learn more about these genes and whether the effect they have on leukaemic cells can be the target of novel therapies.

**Congratulations to both winners!**

# In the Spotlight....

This time we focus our lenses on Steve Bagley, Head of Advanced Imaging.

1. What is your favourite part of the UK?  
Brighton or maybe front row of the Apollo in Manchester.

2. What is your favourite book?  
Depends upon what mood I'm in but anything by Philip K Dick such as The Man In The High Castle.

3. What is your favourite film?  
The Third Man or Metropolis.

4. If you had to change careers tomorrow, what would you do?  
Starting my own microbrewery or international stuntman.

5. What is the most important lesson that you have learnt from life?  
When you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change.

6. What three things would you save from a burning house?  
The dogs (does that count as one?), my vinyl collection and my portable hard disk with all the photographs, music etc. on.

7. What is your greatest fear?  
When using the microscopes and seeing biological interactions as they happen leads me to think that losing ones sight would be my greatest fear.

8. How would you like to be remembered?  
As long as I am not remembered as a chapter in a Ben Goldacre book then I'll be happy.

9. If you could change one thing in your past what would it be?  
I really wouldn't change anything, there have been a couple of concerts I wish I would have been at though.

10. What would be a perfect meal?  
A wild mushroom risotto and a decent glass of wine.

11. What trait do you most deplore in others?  
Can I have two? Bad manners and intolerance

12. You've just won the lottery and have £5 million pounds to spend. What do you buy first?  
The new microscope I've been designing in my head for a while now.



13. Which words or phrases do you most overuse?  
No probs.

14. What is your idea of perfect happiness?  
A world without greed, if I can't have that then laughter with friends.

15. What keeps you awake at night?  
I don't sleep that much, I only get a couple of hours a night so everything I guess.

## Christmas Opening

The Institute will be closed on Christmas eve as well as the other statutory holidays (Christmas day, Boxing day & New Year's day) however the Institute will remain open during all other days and reception will be staffed as normal.

Most of the scientific and operational services will be closed from 24th December until 4th January in the New Year,

please allow for this if you are planning to work during the holiday period.

In January we will be holding our annual series of talks detailing the work of the scientific service units, further details will be released nearer the time but all talks will be on the 19th and 20th January.



# New Business Manager



Martyn Bottomley has recently started as the Cancer Research Technology (CRT) Institute-based Business Manager and can now be found on the first floor in RF-25. Martyn is Institute-based in order to be more accessible for intellectual property related matters and to work more closely with researchers at The Paterson. There are also CRT Business Managers based at

the Beatson Institute in Glasgow and at the Northern Institute for Cancer Research in Newcastle.

Martyn deals with a range of activities related to intellectual property on behalf of CRT, the technology transfer arm of Cancer Research UK, working together with both UMIP and the University Research Office. The focus of his role is to identify new potential drug targets, diagnostics and exploitable research methods and reagents and to support their commercialisation for the benefit of cancer patients. This will involve regular scientist visits so Martyn can gain a better understanding of what each group does and also attendance at in-house seminars and group meetings.

# Major Donor Manager CR-UK



Cancer Research UK has appointed Julia Wright as Major Donor Manager for the North West, based at the Paterson Institute. Julia will be securing high-value donations from local philanthropists for CR-UK projects in Manchester and Liverpool. It is a new post for the charity that historically has been very successful in community

fundraising through events and community groups in the area; however this is the first time CR-UK has invested in a dedicated

local fundraiser to bring in 'major' donations. Julia said "It's not surprising CR-UK has chosen Manchester as one of the first locations for regional major gift fundraising. The North West is home to many successful, well connected individuals and charitable trusts, and with MCRC becoming a CR-UK Centre, there are lots of good reasons for local people to support some of the world's finest cancer research that is happening right here on our doorstep. It's a really exciting time for CR-UK in the North West and I'm delighted to be a part of it."

## A Warm Welcome to The Paterson's New Starters

**Rachel Ackersley**  
Scientific Officer

**Dragana Ahel**  
PostDoc

**Alison Bennett**  
Placement Student

**Jessica Booth**  
Scientific Officer

**Damien Brown**  
Scientific Officer

**Maciej Dolniak**  
Scientific Officer

**Laura Fernandez Del Ama**  
Laboratory Aide

**Bridget Greystoke**  
Clinical Fellow

**Rheanna Makorie**  
Scientific Officer

**Sonia McNichol**  
Placement Student

**Pedro N'Kosi**  
Scientific Officer

**Urszula Polanska**  
PostDoc

**Marianna Rossi**  
PostDoc

**Ria Weston**  
Senior Scientific Officer

**Torsten Geerlings**  
Senior Scientific Officer

Congratulations to:  
**James Dunphy** on his  
marriage to Kathryn on  
Saturday 8  
August 2009 in  
Castlefield,  
Manchester.





# Paterson v Beatson Football Game

by Luke Harrison

On Saturday 29th August the PICR football club was host to the Beatson Institute for Cancer Research Football Club (BICR FC). It was an 11-a-side game that had everything; scientists in shorts, goals, and cheerleaders (Tetyana Kymenko (CEP) and Tim Illidge (Targeted Therapy)).



PICR FC was managed by Paul Scutt (Bioinformatics), who, with Kevin Keegan-like passion was able to steer PICR FC through whatever BICR FC could throw at it. With John "the wall" Bridgeman (Medical Oncology) in goal and Goran "slide tackle" Landberg (Molecular Pathology) and Vitaly Latypov (Carcinogenesis) supporting him, the defence was always going to be solid. Nick "two footed challenge" Tobin (Molecular Pathology) and James Dunphy (CR-UK) held everything together in midfield. And with Chris "the whippet" Writh (Bioinformatics) on the left wing and Luke "the power" Harrison (CEP) on the right, there was no shortage of quality crosses into the box for the likes of Matt Liew (Genito-Urinary Cancer Research) and James Lynch (Leukaemia Biology) to get on the end of.

It was a close game and, naturally, the score line was irrelevant [ *Editors note: Clearly this is a euphemism for losing. The actual score was 6-0. To them* ]. This was all about connecting two of CR-UK's flagship research centres. And with the two teams meeting up afterwards for a well-deserved curry in Rusholme, there was plenty of time to network and discuss science.

The University of Manchester  
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CANCER RESEARCH UK

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## Manchester Cancer Research Centre Conference Harnessing Apoptosis

17 - 20 January 2010, Manchester, UK



Register online at:  
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### Key dates:

**Friday 11 December**  
Registration closes

### Keynote Speakers: Doug Green (USA) & Karen Vousden (UK)

#### Speakers:

Gerald Cohen (UK)  
Caroline Dive (UK)  
Julian Downward (UK)  
Gerard Evan (USA)  
Wolfgang Hackl (CH)

Roy Herbst (USA)  
Marja Jäätelä (DK)  
Jos Jonkers (NL)  
Rakesh Kumar (USA)  
Anthony Letal (USA)  
Pascal Meier (UK)

Donald Ogilvie (UK)  
Malcolm Ranson (UK)  
Saul Rosenberg (USA)  
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Bart Vanhaesebroeck (UK)

Elisabeth de Vries (NL)  
Domagoj Vucic (USA)  
Henning Walczak (UK)  
Christine Watson (UK)  
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