

From: Executive Director (UKNSCN)

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Attachments: 16thUSAQuarterlyUpdate.pdf; Hypoxia Technical Forum (3) (2)C.doc; FLYER FOR OSWESTRY CARTILAGE SYMPOSIUM 2009.doc
Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the twenty-first news and events bulletin issued by the UK National Stem Cell Network (UKNSCN). These bulletins (scroll down) are circulated on a regular basis (now monthly) when there are sufficient events to publicise, and are also posted in PDF format on the events section of the UKNSCN website - see <http://www.uknscn.org/events/index.html>. These communications are complemented by more formal UKNSCN Newsletters which are also available to download from the website. You have received this communication by virtue of your inclusion in the UKNSCN's correspondence list, which UKNSCN operates in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

If you do not wish to be included in this correspondence list, please reply to this message and your E-mail address will be removed. The E-mail correspondence list continues to grow rapidly - it currently stands at around 1800 individuals, covering the following diversity of stakeholders: academics (of many disciplines), industrialists, charities, learned societies, professional associations, lawyers, venture capitalists, regulatory bodies, journalists, MPs and government and Research Council officials. UKNSCN requests that you forward this message to interested colleagues who might not have received it and who may wish to then request that their E-mail address is included. If you wish to contribute items to the next bulletin, issue 22 will be circulated on 6 November. Thank you.

Ben Sykes
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NEWS

NEW UKNSCN ADVISORY COMMITTEE FIRST MEETING - 16TH SEPTEMBER 2009

Following the re-structuring of the UKNSCN, its new Advisory Committee met for the first time on 16 September with Dr Catherine Prescott of Biolatris Ltd in the Chair. Within a packed agenda, the Committee considered options for the future funding of the UKNSCN from 1 April 2011 onwards, and discussed revisions to the Network's current Corporate Plan and its Delivery Plan for 2009/10. A number of new initiatives have been added to the Network's 2009/10 Delivery Plan. In order to promote transparency, it has been proposed that the minutes of Advisory Committee meetings are published unabridged via the UKNSCN's website for the community to view; these will appear shortly. The Advisory Committee Chair and UKNSCN Executive Director will be reporting the issues raised at the first meeting to the UKNSCN Management Board on 8 October. For the full membership of the Advisory Committee and also the Management Board, and an explanation of their respective roles, please view the links to the UKNSCN website below.

[About UKNSCN](#)

[Management Board](#)

[Advisory Committee](#)

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## UPDATE ON UKNSCN THIRD ANNUAL SCIENCE MEETING 2010 - CONFERENCE DINNER SPEAKER CONFIRMED

You are reminded that next year's UKNSCN Annual Scientific Meeting will take place from 12-14 July 2010 at the University of Nottingham's East Midlands Conference Centre (EMCC). Please book the dates in your diary and view the conference homepage on the UKNSCN's website at the first link below. A formal press release was issued in July, announcing that the Dame Anne McLaren Memorial Lecturer for next year will be Fiona Watt from Cancer Research UK in Cambridge. On-line registration has been delayed into October, until the Programme Steering Group has finalised the programme and confirmed the majority of speakers. Keep an eye out on the 2010 conference homepage at the link below.

The 2010 conference dinner will again take place on the evening of day 2 (13 July) and is being planned at Kelham Hall in Nottinghamshire. UKNSCN is delighted to announce that Professor Sir John Gurdon (Cambridge) - recent recipient of the Lasker Prize - has agreed to deliver the after-dinner speech at next year's event. Sir John follows in the footsteps of Sir Martin Evans and Sir Richard Gardner who spoke at the first two conference dinners in 2008 and 2009 respectively.

If you are interested in exhibiting at, or sponsoring the 2010 conference, please get in touch with the UKNSCN Executive Director at the e-mail address above.

[2010 Conference Homepage](#)

[UKNSCN Press Releases](#)

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## FIFTH UKNSCN PATENTS DIGEST PUBLISHED FOR JULY/AUGUST 2009

The latest stem cell patents digest covering the period 1 July to 31 August 2009 is now available for downloading from the UKNSCN website at the link below. This report is 43 pages long and contains brief bibliographic information on 156 patents designed to enable you to pick out relevant patents and conduct your own further study on the relevant database using the patent number. The report contains:

139 published patents: 95 adult, 32 embryonic, 12 iPS

17 granted patents: 13 adult, 3 embryonic, 1 iPS

[Download Patents Digest](#)

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## EPSRC CALL-FOR-PROPOSALS ON NOVEL TECHNOLOGIES FOR STEM CELL SCIENCE [UK ONLY]

The UK's Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) has recently announced a new call-for-proposals on *Novel Technologies in Stem Cell Science*. Funding of up to £5.5M is available under this call, subject as usual to the quality of submissions, and EPSRC expects to support 2 or 3 projects of 3-4 years' duration. Applications are sought from UK groups collaborating across disciplines to develop novel technologies for the characterisation, manipulation and monitoring of stem cells. Projects funded under this call will concentrate on basic technology research, and outputs will typically sit at Technology Readiness Level 1-2 (contact EPSRC for definitions). The deadline for applications is 3rd November 2009 at 4pm.

[Further Information and Applications Process](#)

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## TSB FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: NEW PROGRAMME ON REGENERATIVE MEDICINE [UK ONLY]

As part of a new £18M programme in Regenerative Medicine geared towards helping consolidate a regenerative medicine industry here in the UK, the UK's Technology Strategy Board (TSB) has just launched two single-stage calls-for-proposals for business-focused projects in the following two areas:

### 1. Therapeutics Feasibility Studies (call now closed)

TSB will invest up to £3M in commercial research and development feasibility projects in the area of regenerative medicine therapies. The deadline for the receipt of full applications **passed on 1st October**. Details concerning the coverage of this call-for-proposals are still available via the TSB website at the link below.

[Further Details on Therapeutics Call](#)

### 2. Value Systems and Business Models (call still open)

TSB will invest up to £1.5M in commercial research and development projects in the area of regenerative medicine value systems and business models. Proposals under this call will ideally be business-led and business-driven, but can involve science-to-business interactions. Projects will attract up to 75% funding of total eligible project costs. For further details on this call, view the link below. It is compulsory that you register with TSB your intent to submit by midday on 8th October. The deadline for the receipt of full applications is midday on 15th October.

[Further Details on Value Systems/Business Models Call](#)

Note that the TSB is operating a competition helpline for applicants (01355 272155) and further information can also be requested by sending an e-mail to: [competitions@tsb.gov.uk](mailto:competitions@tsb.gov.uk).

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FIRST MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL STEM CELL RESEARCH TRANSLATION AWARDS ANNOUNCED

The Medical Research Council recently announced funding for seven awards totalling £4.7 million under its translational stem cell research scheme. This includes nearly £3 million for four early stage clinical trials involving adult stem cells. These trials will assess various aspects of stem cell biology – using stem cell transplantation to address blindness and bone repair, to activate dormant stem cells within the body to treat Addison's disease and to target the elimination of cancerous stem cells responsible for chronic myeloid leukaemia. More information can be found at the link below:

[Stem Cell Projects Pave the Way for New Therapies](#)

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## MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES IN STEM CELL RESEARCH [UK ONLY]

The UK's Medical Research Council (MRC) continues to operate its new responsive mode funding scheme in translational stem cell research. The first four closing dates for outline proposals to the new Translational Stem Cell Research Committee (TSCRC) have now passed and the next closing date is 9 December 2009. Further information on 2010 closing dates will be available in due course via the link below, or from Catriona Crombie at [catriona.crombie@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk](mailto:catriona.crombie@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk).

[TSCRC Further Information and 2010 Closing Dates](#)

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HUMAN TISSUE AUTHORITY (HTA) REVISED CODES OF PRACTICE PUBLISHED

The Human Tissue Authority's (HTA) revised Codes of Practice came into force on 15 September, following extensive public consultation in autumn last year. Seven of the HTA's original eight Codes of Practice have been revised following its experience as a regulator, and an entirely new Code of Practice for Research has been added. Within the new Code of Practice for Research (CoP No.9), there is an important section on the interface between research, human application and clinical trials which all clinicians and stem cell researchers should read carefully.

[View Codes of Practice](#)

ACADEMY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES PUBLICATION ON *HYPE, HOPE AND HYBRIDS*

Readers may be interested in a recent publication from the UK's Academy of Medical Sciences (AMS), which has been prepared in conjunction with the Wellcome Trust, the Science Media Centre and the Medical Research Council. The publication contains personal perspectives from science, policy and media representatives on the public debate surrounding the passage of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill during 2006-2008, and is available to download from the AMS website at the following link:

[Download Publication](#)

SIXTEENTH QUARTERLY UPDATE ON STEM CELL RESEARCH & REGENERATIVE MEDICINE FROM CALIFORNIA AND THE WIDER USA

Attached to this bulletin, you will find the 16th quarterly update from UKNSCN's contact at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) in California. This contains very useful information on recent federal developments in stem cell policy (NIH guidelines), CIRM funding issues, other state developments and US company news.

TWO TRAVEL AWARDS AVAILABLE FOR FORTHCOMING GERMAN STEM CELL SCHOOL

Germany's North Rhine & Westphalia (NRW) Stem Cell Network is holding a first Stem Cell School from 30 November to 5 December in Muenster, Germany. Only 20 places are available through an applications process, but readers are invited to note that two fully funded places (including travel) are being made available for postdoctoral researchers from outside Germany whose countries are current members of the International Consortium of Stem Cell Networks (ICSCN). The UK qualifies on this count, therefore interested UK stem cell researchers at the postdoctoral level may be interested in applying. To assess the course content and find out more about the applications process, please view the following link to the NRW Stem Cell Network website:

[Stem Cell School Programme and Applications Process](#)

UKNSCN COORDINATION GRANTS SCHEME IN PREPARATION

Following approval from the UKNSCN's Management Board at its most recent meeting on 20 July, the Network is in the process of preparing an informal scheme (i.e. no external peer review, closing dates etc) in which small amounts of funding such as £500 or £1k can be made available to UK academics to contribute to the costs of coordinating national-level scientific meetings in stem cell science and translation. The budget for this scheme will be fixed by the Board each year and final details (criteria etc.) will be announced later this month.

EVENTS

UK Stem Cell Bank Hypoxia Technical Forum (25 Places Available), Bridgend, South Wales, 12 October 2009

If you are interested in hypoxic, continuous-culture environments and their application in stem cell culture and research, you may wish to register for this one-day event being organised by the UK Stem Cell Bank and hosted by Ruskinn Technology Ltd based in Bridgend, South Wales. Places are limited to just 25, and interested delegates are invited to register by contacting Lyn Healy at the UK Stem Cell Bank (e-mail: lyn.healy@nibsc.hpa.org.uk). A letter of invitation, including the programme for the day, is attached to this bulletin for reference.

New York Stem Cell Foundation 4th Annual Translational Stem Cell Research Conference, New York, USA, 13-14 October 2009

The NYSCF annual conference is unique: it focuses on translational stem cell research, demonstrating the potential to advance cures for the major diseases of our time. It is designed for all professionals with an interest in stem cell research, including physicians, researchers, clinical investigators, professors, government and health officials, postdoctoral fellows and graduate students. The panels on the first day are designed to reach a broader audience, including the lay public. View the events page of the NYSCF's website at the link below for further details on the programme.

[NYSCF Annual Conference](#)

London Regenerative Medicine Network (LRMN) Evening Meeting, University College London, UK, 15 October 2009

The London Regenerative Medicine Network (LRMN) resumes its highly successful evening meetings this autumn, with its next meeting taking place on 15 October at UCL from 6pm to 10pm. Speakers include Sir Richard Sykes from the UK Stem Cell Foundation. Further details are available from the LRMN team at: office@lrnmn.com, or via the LRMN website at the link below.

[Further Details and Registration Information](#)

4th World Conference on Regenerative Medicine, Leipzig, Germany, 29-31 October 2009

The fourth World Conference on Regenerative Medicine, organised by the Fraunhofer Institute for Cell Therapy and Immunology, will take place in Leipzig, Germany from 29-31 October 2009. The main topics covered in the programme will be: Stem Cells, Tissue Engineering, Technology Development, Immunology and Signalling, and Regulatory Affairs. The final programme, together with further details, is now available via the link below.

Prospective delegates to this conference are invited to note in particular that a first meeting of the fledgling Veterinary Stem Cell Consortium is being co-located with the Leipzig conference. The consortium considers that domestic mammals provide an ideal "proving ground" for the translation of stem cell technology

into clinical practice, as exemplified by its work in using MSCs for the treatment of tendon disease in horses. For further information, please contact Roger Smith at RkSmith@rvc.ac.uk.

[Further Information and Registration](#)

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4th Annual UK Cancer Stem Cells Symposium, London, UK, 12 November 2009

The fourth annual UK Cancer Stem Cells Symposium will take place in London at Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry on 12 November 2009. The programme includes guest speakers from overseas who will discuss on-going developments in stem cell biology related to cancer. The meeting will provide comprehensive updates on a range of cancer stem cell topics, report recent research, and provide opportunities to network with colleagues who have active research interests in stem cells and cancer. Registration is open to all via the link below (fees apply) and the closing date for registration is 30th October.

#### [Programme Information and Registration](#)

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Short Course on Bioreactors and Growth Environments for Tissue Engineering, Keele University, UK, 16-19 November 2009

This four-day interactive training course is targeted at industry and academia at postgraduate level, with the aim of providing delegates with a comprehensive understanding of the use of bioreactors in tissue engineering. This year, the course is focusing on tissue engineering for bone, cartilage and connective tissue. Further details are available via the Keele website at the link below.

[Further Details and Registration](#)

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7th Oswestry Cartilage Symposium, Oswestry, UK, 19-20 November 2009

This highly stimulating meeting will provide a series of lectures from experts in the field on the latest research into articular cartilage and joint repair. Workshops will also tackle themes such as the best cells for repair (including stem cells) and the problems of translation into the clinic. The meeting will take place at the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic and District Hospital NHS Trust in Oswestry, Shropshire. Registration fees apply and attendance is limited to 75 places. Interested delegates are therefore advised to register promptly by contacting Mrs Alison Whitelaw at: [alison.whitelaw@rjah.nhs.uk](mailto:alison.whitelaw@rjah.nhs.uk). Further information is also available in the flyer attached to this bulletin.

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Major International Congress on Gene Therapy, Cell Therapy & Stem Cell Research, Hannover, Germany, 20-25 November 2009

Four major societies in the fields of gene therapy, cell therapy, stem cell biology and regenerative science are combining to hold a unique international meeting on gene and cell therapy (with a focus on regeneration) at the Hannover Convention Centre in Hannover, Germany from 20-25 November 2009. Registration opened on 18 April and is available via the link below; the deadline for the early registration discount passed on 15 September.

[Further Details](#)

Annual bioProcess UK Conference, York, UK, 25-26 November 2009

The bioProcessUK 2009 annual conference was announced at the beginning of June, and will take place at York Racecourse on 25-26 November 2009. The conference programme includes a focus session on the **challenges of producing advanced therapies**. Interested delegates may register at the link below.

[Conference Homepage and Registration](#)

Network for European Cell Transplantation and Repair (NECTAR) Conference, Cardiff, UK, 26-28 November 2009

The NECTAR annual conference is this year being organised by the Brain Repair Group at Cardiff University, Wales, and will be held at the Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff from 26-28 November 2009. This conference provides a unique opportunity for researchers to come together to discuss and plan progress on cell and gene therapy related to the nervous system. It has evolved as the primary and most focused international meeting in Europe on neural repair and neuro-regeneration, and is expected to take on further importance in the future as stem cell technologies improve and progress ever closer towards clinical trials. The NECTAR network is now in its 18th year, originally established by researchers working on Parkinson's and Huntington's Diseases. Interested delegates should contact Anne-Marie McGorrian at mcgorriana@cardiff.ac.uk, or view the website below.

[Further Information](#)

7th Annual Conference on Commercial Translation of Regenerative Medicine, London, UK, 3-4 December 2009

This seventh annual conference continues the series aimed at excelling in reimbursement strategies and penetrating the regenerative medicine market with breakthrough funding and investment ideas. It brings together key industry, academia and regulatory experts to give a clear insight into the technologies and therapies that are nearing the market. For full information on registration and costs, interested delegates should contact *Marcus Evans Life Sciences* at: marketing2@marcusevansuk.com.

Biochemical Society Focused Meeting on Revolutionising Drug Discovery With Stem Cell Technology, Stevenage, UK, 18-19 January 2010

This Focused Meeting aims to bring together academics and colleagues from industry to address the state of the art in the biology of pluripotent stem cells and in particular the progress which has been made toward generating differentiated cell types from human embryonic stem cells that are of greatest potential significance in the process of drug discovery (neuronal cells, cardiomyocytes, hepatocytes). The meeting will be of great interest to scientists in both academic and industrial sectors, providing an opportunity to discuss important aspects relating to the application of stem cells.

Confirmed speakers include Austin Smith, Sheng Ding, David Hay, Peter Andrews, Lorraine Young, Ian Wilmut, Stephen Minger, Lars Sundstrom, Chris Denning and Graeme Milligan. For further information, please view the website below. Speaker slots are available within the programme and the deadline for the submission of abstracts is 11 November.

[Programme Information and Registration](#)

Nanomedicine 2010 Conference, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 24-25 February 2010

In the latest of its highly-successful series of conferences addressing the new field of nanomedicine and related medical technologies, the Institute of Nanotechnology, in partnership with NanoNed (the Dutch national nanotechnology network), will be bringing together some of the world's leading researchers and companies in the fields of medical diagnostics, drug design and delivery, imaging and regenerative medicine to show how the application of nanoscience and nanotechnologies can contribute towards answering this multifaceted challenge. The conference includes an entire session dedicated to regenerative medicine, in which the UK speakers will be Molly Stevens from Imperial College and Mike Raxworthy from Neotherix Ltd.

[IoN Conference Homepage and Registration Information](#)

2010 Joint Spring Meeting of the BSCB/BSDB, Warwick, UK, 12-15 April 2010

The British Society for Cell Biology (BSCB) and the British Society for Developmental Biology (BSDB) will be holding their joint spring meeting at the University of Warwick from 12-15 April 2010. For details of confirmed speakers and registration information, please view the link below.

[Conference Programme and Registration Details](#)

Next UK Stem Cell Bank Roadshow, Manchester, UK, 14 October 2009

During 2009/10, the UK Stem Cell Bank is holding a series of roadshow events across the UK aimed at updating researchers on the progress being made by the Bank in providing stem cell lines, and to obtain feedback on what the community might need from the Bank in the coming years. The next roadshow will be at the University of Manchester on 14 October. For further information, please contact the Bank's Business Development Manager (Iphigenie Charatsi) at: enquiries@ukstemcellbank.org.uk.

Repairing the Body: First Cranfield Health Conference on Regenerative Medicine, Cranfield, UK, 22-23 April 2010

Cranfield University is holding its first conference on regenerative medicine to explore the translation of fundamental medical research into commercial technologies, with support from the East of England Stem Cell Network. The keynote speaker will be Professor Lord Robert Winston. For further details, please view the link below.

[Registration Information](#)

COURSES

Masters (MSc) Course in Nanotechnology and Regenerative Medicine, University College London

The MSc in Nanotechnology and Regenerative Medicine is a brand new course run by the UCL Centre for Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine which starts in September this year. The course is believed to be the first one focusing on nanotechnology applied to regenerative medicine, and places are available for one year's full-time or two years' part-time study. The closing date for this year's entry passed on 1 August 2009. For further information, view the link below or contact Prof Alexander Seifalian at a.seifalian@ucl.ac.uk.

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/stemcells/Students/MSc-Nano-Reg-Med.doc>

Masters (MRes) Research Programme in Tissue Engineering for Regenerative Medicine, University of Manchester

The Masters by Research in TERM is a new and pioneering one-year collaborative degree course combining expertise from a number of multi-disciplinary research groups across the University of Manchester. It aims to provide skills training and expertise in the practical techniques fundamental to tissue injury and repair including:

1. Core technologies relevant to tissue repair, engineering and regeneration
2. The use of 'smart' biomaterials and biopolymers to repair and regenerate tissues
3. Approaches to cell sourcing and cell differentiation
4. Developing clinical trials and the challenges of commercialisation

The MRes TERM provides training beyond the traditional boundaries of biology, medicine and engineering. It is unique as it is directed at students seeking to forge a career in tissue engineering and stem cell technology in either an academic or commercial setting. This allows students to specialise and focus on independent research projects tailored towards their career aspirations. Housed within the recently built UK Centre for Tissue Regeneration (UKCTR) the MRes combines two independent research placements to allow students the opportunity to experience a range of techniques. This follows a series of master classes covering aspects of cell sourcing, bioengineering and the barriers to commercialisation. With industrial input from the likes of Smith & Nephew, the MRes provides an ideal platform for career progression into PhD training, commercial settings or medical specialisation.

The course is now fully subscribed for 2009/10 entry. If you are interested in applying for 2010/11 entry, please visit the University of Manchester website at the link below:

<http://www.medicine.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/mres/term/>

Masters (MSc) Course in Stem Cell Technology, University of Nottingham

In response to the urgent need to train new graduates in the emerging stem cell field, the University of Nottingham launched its MSc in Stem Cell Technology in October 2007. This one year, full-time course is an innovative project designed to introduce science, agriculture and medical graduates throughout the world to the cutting edge of stem cell research and wide-ranging applications. Taught in Nottingham's state of the art Wolfson Centre for Stem Cells, Tissue Engineering and Modelling (STEM) by world-class researchers, students will gain both theoretical and practical knowledge of stem cells and how they can be applied to biotechnology and human health. This course is intended to provide a strong foundation for those wishing to pursue further careers in stem cell scientific research, in legislative/managerial aspects of stem cell technologies, in clinical regenerative medicine and in stem cell commercialisation. Further information can be found at <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/stem/msc/index.php> or by e-mailing mscstem@nottingham.ac.uk.

Masters (MSc) Course in Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine, University of Sheffield

This new course has been developed in response to increasing international demand for training in generic aspects of stem cell science and regenerative medicine, which benefit a wide spectrum of applications. The course content is provided through collaboration between the Department of Biomedical Science, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and three of the UK's most prestigious research Centres - The Centre for Developmental and Biomedical Genetics, Centre for Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering and Centre for Stem Cell Biology. The set of skills, knowledge and expertise that underpin the content of this course are unique to the University of Sheffield. Regenerative medicine using cell and tissue replacement therapies holds great promise for the future treatment of human disease. Hopes for the success of such therapies rely upon a thorough understanding of the biological processes that control the pluripotency, self-renewal and differentiation capacities of stem cells and their progeny. One challenge is to identify factors that regulate stem cell renewal and differentiation. Many of these processes are fundamental to normal embryonic development. Experimentally tractable model organisms, such as mouse, chick as well as Drosophila and zebrafish are proving useful in studying the fundamental molecular mechanisms underlying the commitment of totipotent or pluripotent cells to specific lineages and their subsequent differentiation into distinct tissues or organs. Complemented by molecular genetic and *in vitro* approaches using human embryonic stem cells and embryonic carcinoma cells, current research efforts are poised to make regenerative medicine a reality, and may lead to new treatments for a number of conditions including Parkinson's disease, diabetes, and hearing loss. For further information on the course see http://www.shef.ac.uk/bms/prospective_pg/masters or contact Professor Steve Winder s.winder@sheffield.ac.uk.

Masters (MRes) Research Programme in Regenerative Medicine, University of Bath

The Department of Biology and Biochemistry has been running a one-year, full time taught MRes degree in Regenerative Medicine since October 2004. The programme is run in association with the Bath Centre for Regenerative Medicine (BCRM), an interdisciplinary group from four sectors of the University. The programme focuses in particular on modern research in developmental biology and tissue engineering and its potential applications to medicine. It encompasses activities such as stimulating tissue regeneration *in situ*, grafting of stem cells to bring about repair, causing transdifferentiation of one tissue type into another, and creating functional tissues and organs by tissue engineering. Consisting of a range of taught units, together with a number of research projects, this degree enables students to gain practical and theoretical experience in a number of laboratories as well as studying taught Masters level units (courses). It is designed to give the student an insight into a range of research activities, techniques and skills, as well as to widen their knowledge both of the subject itself and the context within which the research will take place. It also provides a range of generic skills training in line with the Joint Skills Statement of the Research Councils. The MRes in Regenerative Medicine provides the ideal training for students to proceed to a three-year PhD programme, with a competitive edge in relation to undergraduate students applying for doctoral studies. The increased breadth and experience gained during the MRes in Regenerative Medicine will also make graduates more suitable to work in industry where a working knowledge of the nature and demands of academic research is needed. For further information, please see: <http://www.bath.ac.uk/bio-sci/postgrad/mres/mrrmprogspec.htm>

Masters (MRes) Research Programme in Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine, North-East England Stem Cell Institute (NESCI)

The North-East England Stem Cell Institute (NESCI) - a collaboration between the Universities of Durham and Newcastle - completed the first intake into the new Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine Master of Research programme in October 2007. Students register on the Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine specialisation within Newcastle University's MRes in Medical and Molecular Biosciences, a one year full-time modular research degree. The programme includes advanced study of stem cell biology, research skills and a 24-week research project. The programme provides a springboard into a career that involves a working knowledge of scientific research in academia and industry and provides excellent preparation for PhD research studies. Teaching is provided by internationally-recognised researchers at both universities drawn from across the wide breadth of biological, biomedical and medical sciences. Research projects are available in both Durham and Newcastle.

For further information about the course, e-mail: mres@nesci.ac.uk. Background details on the broader MRes are available at: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/biomedicine/assets/documents/Mres_Strand/Stem.pdf. To apply, please visit: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/apply/>.

Masters (MSc) Course in Biomedical Engineering, Cell & Tissue Engineering, Keele University

This taught Masters Course provides multidisciplinary postgraduate training in biomedical engineering and cellular engineering, building on undergraduate knowledge in basic science and applying it to clinical applications of bioengineering and cell/tissue engineering relevant to the healthcare environment. Modules covered by this course include 'stem cell therapy', 'cell biomechanics', 'cell and tissue engineering', and 'physiological measurement and medical imaging'. There are two student intakes per year – one in October and one in January. Students can study full or part time. Prestigious scholarships are available for this course. Students perform two semesters of lectures followed by direct research project experience in the laboratory-based third semester. These research projects offer students hands on training in state of the art areas such as adult and embryonic stem cell culture, optical coherence tomography and bioreactor design. A seminar series is also offered throughout the first two semesters where students have the opportunity to be taught by and interact with international leaders in the field of bioengineering.

These courses are run within the Institute of Science and Technology in Medicine at Keele University. ISTM has been rated in the national 2008 Research Assessment Exercise that 90% of the research staff here are rated internationally and 10% of the staff are world leading in their field. This builds on our excellent 5* rating given to the Institute at the last RAE in 2001. In summary, the MSc Biomedical Engineering, Cell & Tissue Engineering course provides a year's training in two biotechnology fields. Further information is available at the following URL:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/research/istm/MSCBIO.htm>

INFORMATION

UPDATE FROM THE UK STEM CELL BANK

Cell Line Availability

The list of stem cell lines (14) currently available from the bank is given below. These are all hESC lines intended solely for research purposes. In addition, there are a further 24 lines banked, of which 3 are awaiting release in the very near future. For further information on obtaining and depositing cell lines see <http://www.ukstemcellbank.org.uk>.

Cell Lines Currently Available from the UK Stem Cell Bank:

Cell Line	UKSCB Accession Number		Cell Line	UKSCB Accession Number
SHEF1	R-05-007		NCL-1	R-05-015
SHEF2	R-05-028		NCL-2	R-07-014
SHEF3	R-05-008		NCL-3	R-07-015
SHEF6	R-05-031		NCL-4	R-07-016

SHEF7	R-07-008		NCL-5	R-07-017
NOTT1	R-07-001		KCL-001-WT3	R-06-021
MEL-1	R-08-001		NOTT2	R-07-002

Get to Know the UK Stem Cell Bank!

During 2009/2010, the Bank is holding a series of roadshows across the UK. The most recent event on 2 October was kindly hosted by the University of Southampton. The next date in our roadshow diary is 14th October when the Bank will be visiting the University of Manchester. This is a great opportunity for scientists and clinicians involved or interested in stem cell work to meet representatives from the Bank, both to hear about the Bank's activities and to offer feedback on what they feel the Bank as a scientific resource could do for them.

We welcome enquiries from scientists interested in attending the roadshows and meeting with us in their region. To contact the bank, please send e-mail to enquiries@ukstemcellbank.org.uk.

Glyn Stacey, UK Stem Cell Bank

REMEDiE EU Framework Programme 7 Consortium: Stakeholder Survey on Regenerative Medicine

The Regenerative Medicine in Europe (REMEDiE) FP7 consortium, centred on the University of York, invites you to participate in its on-line stakeholder survey designed to gauge the full extent of the regenerative medicine industry in Europe. The on-line survey, aimed at business, is accessible at the link below.

[REMEDiE Stakeholder Survey](#)

Medical Research Council (MRC) Experimental Medicine Toolkit

Launched recently by the MRC Regulatory Support Centre, the Experimental Medicine Toolkit has been designed to support investigators, research managers and ethiccs committees in (a) assessing the risks involved in experimental medicine studies, and (b) devising risk-proportionate management and monitoring strategies. This is undoubtedly of use to stem cell researchers and clinicians. Further information is available at the link below.

[Toolkit Homepage](#)

Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Stem Cell Initiative Electronic Bulletins

The ESRC Stem Cell Initiative has been issuing quarterly electronic bulletins to report on the latest social science research in stem cells and regenerative medicine.

The sixth and final issue is now available at the following link and reports on the *Beyond Pattison* conference which took place in London on 7/8 May 2009. There are updates on research activities and events which are of particular interest to stem cell social scientists.

[Sixth Electronic Bulletin](#)

If you wish to receive future ESRC bulletins automatically, you should send a request by E-mail to Andrew Webster at ajw25@york.ac.uk.

EuroSciCon Meetings and Conferences of Relevance to the Stem Cell Community

Founded in 2001, the life sciences communications organisation EuroSciCon has a number of very specific meetings organised over the next two years which are relevant to the stem cell research community. These are commercial workshops attracting CPD accreditation in most cases. However, you may be entitled to a discount as a UKNSCN member in some cases. If you are interested, please view the website below.

[Conference Listings](#)

END