

From: Executive Director (UKNSCN)
Sent: 19 November 2009 17:00
To: Executive Director (UKNSCN)
Subject: UK National Stem Cell Network (UKNSCN): News & Events Bulletin 22

Attachments: SponsorshipPackages2010.pdf; StemCellClub2010.pdf
Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the twenty-second 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 1850 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 23 will be circulated on 16 December. Thank you.

Ben Sykes
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Website: <http://www.uknscn.org>

NEWS

UPDATE ON UKNSCN THIRD ANNUAL SCIENCE MEETING 2010 - **SPEAKER PROGRAMME NEARING COMPLETION**

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. Keep an eye out on the 2010 conference homepage at the link below, where on-line registration for the conference will open shortly.

The speaker programme is nearing completion. Whilst the conference remains a celebration of UK stem cell science, there will be a few more presentations from overseas researchers than there have been previously. The confirmed programme includes luminaries such as Nissim Benvenisty (Israel), David Warburton (USA) and Marc Peschanski (France). The programme also includes another series of parallel workshops (8 in total) which will take place on days 2 and 3 of the conference, covering a range of science and policy areas.

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 (see third link below). 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. The attached PDF file details the various sponsorship packages available. The basic exhibitor-only package is £1250+VAT.

[2010 Conference Homepage](#)

[UKNSCN Press Releases](#)

[Kelham Hall Conference Dinner Venue](#)

UKNSCN REVISED CORPORATE PLAN AND DELIVERY PLAN PUBLISHED

The UKNSCN has recently published a revised version of its Corporate Plan (2008-11), together with its new Delivery Plan (2009/10). These are now available as PDF files via the UKNSCN website at the link below. Hard copies of the Corporate Plan only are available on request from the UKNSCN office.

[Revised Corporate Plan and New Delivery Plan](#)

MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES IN TRANSLATIONAL 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 approaching on 9 December 2009. Information on the three closing dates in 2010 is now available via the link below, or from Catriona Crombie at catriona.crombie@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk.

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

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](#)

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#### CIRM AWARDS US\$230M TO 14 RESEARCH TEAMS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF STEM CELL THERAPY

The California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) has recently awarded US\$230M in four-year grants to 14 multidisciplinary Californian research teams. In addition, contributions of US\$8M from the Medical Research Council and US\$35M from Canada's Cancer Stem Cell Consortium are helping to fund international collaborations on some of the grants. Further details are available via the link below.

[CIRM Press Release 28 October 2009](#)

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UKNSCN COORDINATION SMALL AWARDS SCHEME IN PREPARATION

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 UKNSCN Management Board each year and final details (criteria etc.) will be announced next month.

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#### CANCER RESEARCH UK STEM CELL CLUB MEETINGS FOR 2010

Cancer Research UK's London Research Institute hosts a *Stem Cell Club* meeting every two months at 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields in London. Organised by Dominique Bonnet, these 'club' meetings are aimed primarily at young investigators and young group leaders who are establishing their laboratory. The remit of the club is wide, covering basic and applied research involving all types of stem cells. View the attached PDF file for details of the six meeting dates for 2010 and how to register or request a presentation slot.

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SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS FOR ISSCR 8TH ANNUAL MEETING, SAN FRANCISCO, 16-19 JUNE 2010

The International Society for Stem Cell Research (ISSCR) recently opened its on-line abstract submission facility for the June 2010 conference in San Francisco, California. If you wish to submit an abstract, the deadline for doing so is 14 January 2010.

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#### STEM CELL TRIAL TO RE-GROW BREAST TISSUE FOLLOWING CANCER SURGERY PLANNED FOR 2010

Australian researchers at the Bernard O'Brien Institute of Microsurgery in Melbourne are planning to start clinical trials (next year) of a tissue engineering technique using adipose stem cells which may ultimately enable the re-growth of breast tissue after cancer surgery. Further details are available via the following link to the *BioNews* website.

[BioNews Article](#)

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EVENTS

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 still open for one or more days of the conference via the link below.

[Further Details](#)

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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](#)

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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 [mcorriana@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:mcorriana@cardiff.ac.uk), or view the website below.

[Further Information](#)

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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. The closing date for on-line registration is 14 January 2010.

[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](#)

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](#)

ISSCR 2010 Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California, USA, 16-19 June 2010

The International Society for Stem Cell Research (ISSCR) is holding its 8th Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California next June. Keep an eye out on the conference homepage at the link below - online registration opens in December.

[2010 Conference Homepage](#)

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 Durham University, Newcastle University and the region's NHS Trusts – completed the first intake into the Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine MRes programme in 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, view the link below or send e-mail correspondence to office@nesci.ac.uk.

<http://www.ncl.ac.uk/biomedicine/postgrad/taught/mres/index.htm>

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 14 October was kindly hosted by the University of Manchester. The next dates in the roadshow diary remain to be confirmed, though the Bank is intending to visit the Universities of Newcastle and Edinburgh early in the New Year. In the meantime, the Bank is participating in a meeting of the French Agence de la Biomedecine in Paris on 14/15 December. The roadshows are 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

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Scottish Stem Cell Network (SSCN) Quarterly Newsletters Available Online

The SSCN issues quarterly newsletters in hard copy, which are also now available online via the SSCN website. View the link below for the latest issue:

[Download Autumn 2009 Issue](#)

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## 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](#)

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## Medical Research Council (MRC) Experimental Medicine Toolkit

Launched by the MRC Regulatory Support Centre, the Experimental Medicine Toolkit has been designed to support investigators, research managers and ethics 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](#)

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## 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](mailto:ajw25@york.ac.uk).

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## 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](#)

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