



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the twenty-eighth news and events bulletin issued by the UK National Stem Cell Network (UKNSCN). The bulletin ([scroll down](#)) now includes internal hyperlinks which allow you to jump straight to articles and events which may be of particular interest to you. UKNSCN welcomes your feedback on this enhanced format. These bulletins are circulated every month and are also posted in PDF format on the events section of the UKNSCN website - see <http://www.uknscn.org/events/index.html>. 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 **2100** 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 29 will be circulated on **29 June 2010**. Thank you.

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NEWS Links

[Update on Third UKNSCN Conference in Nottingham 12-14 July 2010](#) – on-line registration closes **12 noon on Tuesday 22 June**
[Fourth UKNSCN Conference to Take Place in York in 2011](#) – dates for your diary
[Latest UKNSCN Patents Digest for March-April Published **NEW!**](#)
[Further Four Bush-era Embryonic Stem Cell Lines Now Approved Under New NIH Guidelines **NEW!**](#)
[Leg Vein as a Source of Autologous Adult Stem Cells Shows Promise in New Blood Vessel Growth in Mice **NEW!**](#)
[US Researchers Derive Inner Ear Hair Cells from Mouse ESCs and iPSCs](#)
[Academy of Medical Sciences Review of Medical Research Regulation and Governance in the UK](#) – call for evidence, **deadline 1 June**
[Draft Annex to EU Guidance on GMP for Medicinal Products for Human Use](#) – second public consultation now open
[New On-line Information Resource Launched for the Global Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine Community **NEW!**](#)
[Visit the UKNSCN/UK Stem Cell Bank Exhibition Stand at the ISSCR Conference Next Month **NEW!**](#)
[MRC Translational Stem Cell Research Committee Closing Dates for 2010](#)
[Latest UK Appointments in Stem Cell Research and Translation](#)

EVENTS Links

[Next Cancer Research UK Evening Stem Cell Club Meeting, London, UK, 31 May 2010](#)
[Second Annual REMEDIE \(Regenerative Medicine in Europe\) Conference, Wisconsin-Madison, USA, 9-10 June 2010](#)
[Eighth International Conference on Cell Engineering, Dublin, Ireland, 11-12 June 2010](#)
[UK Human Tissue Authority Review of the Year Event, London, UK, 15 June 2010 **NEW!**](#)
[ISSCR 2010 Annual Meeting, San Francisco, 16-19 June 2010](#) – on-line registration now closed, [register on site](#)
[Next BHF Centre Symposium on *Vascular Biology & Arterial Inflammation*, London, UK, 18 June 2010](#)
[Bath Centre for Regenerative Medicine Annual Symposium, Bath, UK, 28-29 June 2010](#)
[Next Meeting of the UK Cardiovascular Collaborative on Stem Cells, London, UK, 1 July 2010](#)
[2010 European Summer School on Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine, Hydra, Greece, 11-17 September 2010](#) – now closed to applications
[Third GPI World Stem Cell Summit, Detroit, Michigan, USA, 4-6 October 2010](#)

COURSES Links

[MSc in Nanotechnology and Regenerative Medicine at University College London](#)
[MRes in Tissue Engineering for Regenerative Medicine at Manchester University](#)
[MSc in Stem Cell Technology at Nottingham University](#)
[MSc in Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine at Sheffield University](#)
[MRes in Regenerative Medicine at Bath University](#)
[MRes in Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine at Durham/Newcastle Universities](#)
[MSc in Biomedical Engineering, Cell and Tissue Engineering at Keele University](#)
[MSc in Medicine, Science and Society at King's College London](#)
[MA in Bioethics and Society at King's College London](#)

INFORMATION Links

[Update from the UK Stem Cell Bank](#)
[UK Stem Cells On-line Regulatory Toolkit](#)
[Scottish Stem Cell Network \(SSCN\) Quarterly Newsletters](#)
[European Human Embryonic Stem Cell Registry – Sixth Newsletter Available](#)
[REMEDIE EU Framework Programme 7 Consortium: Stakeholder Survey](#)
[Medical Research Council Experimental Medicine Toolkit](#)
[ESRC Stem Cell Initiative Electronic Bulletins](#)
[ESRC Genomics Network Research Briefing on HFE Act 2008 Available Online](#)
[EuroSciCon Meetings and Conferences Relevant to Stem Cells](#) – [Discounts Available to UKNSCN Members](#)

NEWS

UPDATE ON UKNSCN THIRD ANNUAL SCIENCE MEETING 2010 – PLACES FILLING FAST, REGISTER BY 22 JUNE

Delegate places are now filling fast for the third UKNSCN annual conference in Nottingham from 12-14 July and the trade exhibition is now **full** with all 42 stands taken. We are now looking at extending the exhibitor floor space in an attempt to accommodate further stands. The deadline for [on-line registration](#) is **12 noon on Tuesday 22 June**, after which prospective delegates should contact the UKNSCN's conference organiser Dynamic Events Ltd on (01797) 223626, or send e-mail to ro.hallam@dynamic-events.co.uk. The final programme for the conference is attached for information.

Poster presenters should note that they have been given a few more days to submit their abstracts to Dynamic Events Ltd in order to be included in the plenary speaker competition and also for their abstracts to be included in the official conference booklet. One relevant abstract per plenary session will be selected by the Programme Steering Group for a 15-minute presentation. The revised deadline for submitting poster abstracts is now **5pm on Wednesday 9 June**.

You are reminded that the conference programme includes another series of parallel workshops (8 in total) which will take place on days 2 and 3 of the conference, covering the areas listed below. You may sign up for one of Workshops A-D on day 2, and one of Workshops E-H on day 3, during the on-line registration process. Places are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis and will be restricted to 80 people in all but two cases where the main conference auditorium can be used.

- Workshop A** – Epigenetics and iPS Cells
- Workshop B** – Cancer Stem Cells
- Workshop C** – Regulatory Roadmap for Stem Cell Therapies
- Workshop D** – Future Patenting in Stem Cells
- Workshop E** – Ethics and Social Science in Stem Cells
- Workshop F** – Technology: Cell Culture Optimisation
- Workshop G** – Technology: Imaging and Tracking Cells
- Workshop H** – Technology Adoption by the NHS and Reimbursement

The 2010 conference dinner will again take place on the evening of day 2 (**13 July**) and is booked 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 this 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.

Current [sponsors](#) of the 2010 conference are: University of Nottingham, Miltenyi Biotec Ltd, Stemcell Technologies Inc., Cytellect Europe Ltd, the Science and Technology Department of the French Embassy in London, BioCity Nottingham, Medlink East Midlands, Tocris Bioscience, Thermo Scientific, ReNeuron Group plc, Life Technologies Inc. (formerly Applied Biosystems and Invitrogen) and BD Biosciences.

[Back to NEWS Links](#)

FOURTH UKNSCN CONFERENCE TO TAKE PLACE IN YORK IN 2011 – 30 MARCH – 1 APRIL 2011

The UKNSCN has now signed a contract with the [University of York](#) for the hosting of the 2011 UK Annual Stem Cell Science Conference. This will take place from **Wednesday 30 March to Friday 1 April**, and marks a return to UKNSCN's more traditional spring slot in the calendar in line with the first and second conferences in 2008 and 2009. Please note the dates in your diaries: for those of you already planning holidays for Easter 2011, the standard school holidays for Easter 2011 fall within the period 11-25 April 2011. This will be the Network's fourth conference, which will continue to showcase the UK's world class stem cell research and translation, complemented by a selection of plenary talks from leading overseas researchers. The conference will continue to feature a trade exhibition which will accommodate 40-50 exhibition stands, and a range of formal sponsorship packages will be available.

[Back to NEWS Links](#)

UKNSCN NINTH PATENTS DIGEST FOR MARCH-APRIL 2010 NOW AVAILABLE

The Network's ninth 'digest' of patents in stem cell research has been produced as usual in conjunction with the UK Intellectual Property Office. This is available as a PDF download from the [UKNSCN website](#), and is also attached to this bulletin. The report covers the period 1 March 2010 to 30 April 2010 and as usual provides a breakdown of both published and granted patents during this period in three areas: adult stem cells, embryonic stem cells and iPS cells/de-differentiation. In addition, we continue to publish the search strategy used to generate this digest. This is available as an Annex to the report. This report is 57 pages long and contains brief bibliographic information on 210 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:

171 published patents: 109 adult, 35 embryonic, 27 iPS
39 granted patents: 28 adult, 10 embryonic, 1 iPS

The next digest for May/June will be published in mid-July.

[Back to NEWS Links](#)

FURTHER FOUR BUSH-ERA EMBRYONIC STEM CELL LINES APPROVED FOR USE UNDER NEW NIH GUIDELINES

At the end of April, the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) approved a further four of the Bush-era hESC lines for research under its new guidelines issued following President Obama's Executive Order 13505. These are lines H7, H9, H13 and H14. Delays in their approval were brought about by the time taken to secure the consent forms signed in Israel where the lines were originally generated. Further information is available in a recent edition of [BioNews](#).

LEG VEIN AS A SOURCE OF AUTOLOGOUS ADULT STEM CELLS SHOW PROMISE IN NEW BLOOD VESSEL GROWTH IN MICE

Recent research published in the journal *Circulation* has demonstrated the possibility that autologous stem cells may be derived from unused leg vein during heart bypass operations and transplanted to promote new blood vessel growth and improve bloodflow. This preliminary research in mice, which is some distance away from human application, was conducted by researchers at the University of Bristol in collaboration with the University of Udine, Italy, and funded by the British Heart Foundation and the National Institute for Health Research. Further details are available in a recent edition of [BioNews](#).

[Back to NEWS Links](#)

AMS REVIEW OF THE REGULATION AND GOVERNANCE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH IN THE UK

The Academy of Medical Sciences (AMS) has been commissioned by the UK Government to conduct an independent review of the regulation and governance of medical research in the UK. The AMS has issued the attached call for evidence, which closes at **5pm on Tuesday 1 June**. Evidence is sought from all organisations and individuals with an involvement or interest in the regulatory and governance framework around medical research. This may include medical research scientists from all sectors, including industry; medical research charities; research funders and regulators; patients and their representatives; and the general public.

Evidence should be submitted (preferably electronically) to Dr Robert Frost at: robert.frost@acmedsci.ac.uk.

[Back to NEWS Links](#)

SECOND PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON DRAFT EU GUIDELINES FOR GMP FOR MEDICINAL PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN USE

On 19 April, the European Commission launched its second public consultation on the [draft Annex 2](#) to the EU Guidelines for GMP for Medicinal Products for Human and Veterinary Use.

UKNSCN members are invited to be aware of this consultation, which lasts three months and closes on 15 July 2010, and to provide comments as appropriate via the e-mail addresses given at the link above. Annex 2 is proposed to be revised as a consequence of the restructuring of the GMP guide, the increased breadth of biological products to include several new product types such as transgenic derived products and the Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs) together with associated new legislation. Significant changes have also been made as a result of the comments received from the first consultation.

[Back to NEWS Links](#)

NEW ON-LINE INFORMATION RESOURCE LAUNCHED FOR GLOBAL STEM CELL AND REGENERATIVE MEDICINE COMMUNITY

A new UK-based on-line portal for the global stem cell research and regenerative medicine community was launched yesterday and can be viewed at via [this link](#). This is a comprehensive up-to-date source of information on cell therapies, cell banks, suppliers of GMP manufacturing services, tissues, cells, research centres, networks and news. The resource is called univerCELLmarket,

[Back to NEWS Links](#)

VISIT THE UKNSCN/UKSCB EXHIBITION STAND AT THE ISSCR CONFERENCE 16-19 JUNE 2010, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

The UKNSCN has again teamed up with the UK Stem Cell Bank (UKSCB) to share an exhibition stand at the ISSCR annual stem cell conference coming up in California next month. If you are an overseas member of the UKNSCN's correspondence list in particular, and you are attending the conference, please do call by at **stand number 337** and introduce yourself. Both UKNSCN and UKSCB staff will be very happy to provide information on all aspects of stem cell research and regenerative medicine in the UK. For UK members who are attending the conference, please do make use of the UKNSCN/UKSCB stand as a meeting point where we can help, for example, to foster international collaborations between researchers from the UK and overseas.

[Back to NEWS Links](#)

US RESEARCHERS DERIVE INNER EAR HAIR CELLS FROM MURINE ESCs AND iPSCs

From studies recently reported in the journal *Cell*, US researchers at the University of Stanford School of Medicine have successfully derived inner ear hair cells from mouse embryonic stem cells and induced pluripotent stem cells (derived from skin cells). If this research can be reproduced using hESCs and particularly patient-derived iPSCs, it would present a very useful model for understanding the dysfunction of these cells in hearing loss. Further information is available on-line in a recent issue of [BioNews](#).

[Back to NEWS Links](#)

LATEST UK APPOINTMENTS IN STEM CELL RESEARCH AND TRANSLATION

You are reminded that the UKNSCN offers a free advertising service via its website for UK-based appointments in stem cell science and translation. Simply send on a PDF flyer detailing vacancies to the UKNSCN's Executive Director and we will do the rest. [New vacancies](#) are being posted on a regular basis now, so you are invited to take a look.

[Back to NEWS Links](#)

ON-GOING 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 six closing dates for outline proposals to the new [Translational Stem Cell Research Committee \(TSCRC\)](#) have now passed and the next closing date will be on **10 August 2010**. Information on all the closing dates in 2010 is available via the link above or from Catriona Crombie at catriona.crombie@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk.

[Back to NEWS Links](#)

EVENTS

Cancer Research UK London Research Institute Stem Cell Club Meeting, London, UK, 31 May 2010

Cancer Research UK's London Research Institute hosts an **evening 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. The third club meeting of 2010 takes place on **31 May** and further details are available via the [London Research Institute website](#).

[Back to EVENTS Links](#)

Second Annual REMEDIe (Regenerative Medicine in Europe) Conference, Wisconsin-Madison, USA, 9-10 June 2010

This conference provides an opportunity to explore and debate the current state of the stem-cells and wider regenerative medicine field and to determine how global shifts will affect both the US and Europe. The European contribution is based on an EC-funded project, REMEDIe (Regenerative Medicine in Europe), that examines the current European engagement with regenerative medicine and how this compares with that found more globally. REMEDIe is the only **social science** project funded within the Commission's FP7 to explore this area. Its primary objective is to understand how the political, economic and bioethical developments within the field operate at national and transnational levels and their implications for healthcare systems across Europe. The conference is supported locally in Wisconsin-Madison by the Holtz Centre and internationally by the European Commission and the Worldwide University Network. You can access [further details online](#), and registration forms are available from the [University of York website](#).

[Back to EVENTS Links](#)

8th International Conference on Cell Engineering, Dublin, Ireland, 11-12 June 2010

The 8th international conference on cell engineering will take place at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland from 11-12 June 2010. Abstracts will be published in the *Proceedings of the International Federation of Medical and Biological Engineering (IFMBE)*. The deadline for the submission of abstracts passed on 31 March, though prospective delegates can still register to attend. Programme details and on-line registration are available via the [ICCE website](#).

[Back to EVENTS Links](#)

UK Human Tissue Authority Review of the Year Event, London, UK, 15 June 2010

The UK's Human Tissue Authority (HTA) is holding its annual review of the year event at the Law Society in London on Tuesday 15 June. Details on speakers for the event are available via the [HTA website](#). Only a few places now remain at this event. Prospective attendees should register via the HTA website by **Friday 4 June**.

[Back to EVENTS Links](#)

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 in June. On-line registration closed on 20 May, but prospective delegates may still register on site. Abstract submission for the conference closed on 28 January.

[Back to EVENTS Links](#)

Next BHF Centre Symposium on *Vascular Biology & Arterial Inflammation*, London, UK, 18 June 2010

Imperial College London's next BHF Centre Symposium will take place in the Alexander Fleming Building at Imperial College's South Kensington campus on Friday **18 June 2010** from 9am to 6.40pm, and will include a session on **angiogenesis and endothelial progenitor cells**. The symposium is free, though prospective delegates **must** register in advance by contacting Katie Payne at: k.payne@imperial.ac.uk. Further details are available in the attached PDF flyer.

[Back to EVENTS Links](#)

University of Bath Centre for Regenerative Medicine Annual Symposium, Bath, UK, 28-29 June 2010

The Bath CRM annual symposium for 2010 will include sessions on developmental processes, stem cells, regeneration and tissue engineering, and there will be an opportunity to **present posters**. Further details on registration (which the organisers hope will be free) and abstract submission will be available from [CRM website](#) in due course.

[Back to EVENTS Links](#)

Next Meeting of the UK Cardiovascular Collaborative on Stem Cells, London, UK, 1 July 2010

You are invited to note the date of the next meeting of the UK Cardiovascular Collaborative on Stem Cells, which will take place at University College London (Taviston Street) on 1 July from 10am to 2pm. The nearest tube station is Euston Square. Attendance is open to all and is free, though you should **register in advance** by contacting Mrs Vanessa Perrin at: v.perrin@ucl.ac.uk. An agenda will be circulated in due course, which will include presentations from cardiovascular researchers at the Royal Veterinary College.

[Back to EVENTS Links](#)

Hydra IV European Summer School on Stem Cells & Regenerative Medicine, Hydra, Greece, 11-17 September 2010

The EuroStemCell FP7 consortium's highly successful summer schools continue this year with the sixth event again taking place in Greece in September, organised by Austin Smith and Clare Blackburn. This year's course will provide intensive training on fundamental concepts and contemporary issues in stem cell biology. Leading experts will provide an in-depth, week-long programme of lectures, workshop and discussion groups on the following:

- The biology of stem cells – embryonic, foetal and adult systems
- Plasticity, epigenetic regulation, signalling and niche
- Clinical applications and clinical trials
- Ethics and patents in stem cell research

Further information is available from the [EuroStemCell consortium's website](#), though please note that the deadline for applications to attend the summer school **passed on 30 April 2010**. Another summer school will be held in 2011.

[Back to EVENTS Links](#)

Third GPI World Stem Cell Summit, Detroit, Michigan, USA, 4-6 October 2010

The US-based Genetics Policy Institute (GPI) is holding its third World Stem Cell Summit in Detroit, Michigan from 4-6 October 2010. Further information about the programme and venue is available via the [summit's website](#).

[Back to EVENTS Links](#)

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 above or contact Prof Alexander Seifalian at a.seifalian@ucl.ac.uk.

[Back to COURSES Links](#)

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 above.

[Back to COURSES Links](#)

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 the link above or by e-mailing mscstem@nottingham.ac.uk.

[Back to COURSES Links](#)

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

This new [masters 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 the link above or contact Professor Steve Winder s.winder@sheffield.ac.uk.

[Back to COURSES Links](#)

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 the link above.

[Back to COURSES Links](#)

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.

[Back to COURSES Links](#)

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 link above.

[Back to COURSES Links](#)

Masters (MSc) Course in Medicine, Science and Society, King's College London

What is the impact of President Obama's policies on the global economy of embryonic stem cell research? What ethical and regulatory issues does the current boom of personal genome tests raise? Issues like these lie at the core of the [MSc Medicine, Science & Society](#) at the Centre for Biomedicine & Society (CBAS), King's College London. This MSc explores new and important areas for Science and Technology Studies (STS) and the social sciences, ranging from stem cells to nanomedicine. It explores the implications of innovative biomedicine for identities, innovations, bioethics, regulation, science, medicine, and healthcare. The MSc is well suited to social science, science and humanities graduates, as indicated in the [course flyer](#). Full/part-time options are available.

[Back to COURSES Links](#)

Masters (MA) Course in Bioethics and Society, King's College London (New for 2010)

Developments in the biosciences raise important ethical issues that are increasingly being addressed by multidisciplinary research teams from the fields of philosophy and social science through, for example, the Wellcome Trust Strategic Award that created the [London and Brighton Translational Ethics Centre](#) (hosted at CBAS). This innovative [MA in Bioethics & Society](#) enables students to combine philosophical ethics modules taught by staff at the world famous Centre of Medical Law & Ethics (CMLE, School of Law) with social science and ethics modules from our CBAS [MSc in Medicine, Science & Society](#). Students will be able to pursue their Dissertation with staff from CBAS and/or CMLE. Full/part-time options are available.

[Back to COURSES Links](#)

INFORMATION

UPDATE FROM THE UK STEM CELL BANK

The next update from the UK Stem Cell Bank will appear in the June UKNSCN e-bulletin. In the meantime, please view the [Bank's website](#) for the latest information on the availability of embryonic stem cell lines for research and the development of the Bank's new clinical grade GMP facility.

[Back to INFORMATION Links](#)

UK Stem Cells On-line Regulatory Toolkit

You are reminded that the Department of Health's *On-line UK Stem Cell Toolkit* for navigating the UK's regulatory framework for stem cell research and translation remains available via the [DoH website](#).

[Back to INFORMATION Links](#)

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](#). The most recent issue (winter 2009/10) is available.

[Back to INFORMATION Links](#)

European Human Embryonic Stem Cell Registry Sixth Newsletter Now Available

Europe's hESC Registry has just published its [sixth newsletter](#) on-line. This contains a mine of useful information on the regulation and banking of hESCs across the globe, and includes a photograph of the UK Stem Cell Bank's brand new GMP research facility for clinical-grade human embryonic stem cell lines.

[Back to INFORMATION Links](#)

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

The Regenerative Medicine in Europe (REMEDIÉ) FP7 consortium, centred on the University of York, invites you to participate in its on-going [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 above.

[Back to INFORMATION Links](#)

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 on the [toolkit homepage](#).

[Back to INFORMATION Links](#)

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 continues to be available via the [University of York website](#) 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. If you require further information on the ESRC Stem Cell Initiative, you can request this by E-mail from Andrew Webster at ajw25@york.ac.uk.

[Back to INFORMATION Links](#)

ESRC Genomics Network Research Briefing on HFE Act 2008 – Now Available Online

This [research briefing](#) was prepared in conjunction with a workshop organised by the ESRC Genomics Policy and Research Forum, held on Thursday 8 October at the ESRC Genomics Network Conference 2009, Cardiff. This workshop brought together new research on the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 from current PhD students and recent PhD graduates, from the ESRC Genomics Network and beyond. For more information please contact Dr Christine Knight, Genomics Forum Policy Research Fellow; e-mail Christine.knight@ed.ac.uk.

[Back to INFORMATION Links](#)

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. Discounts may apply to future meetings on *Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells* and *Flow Cytometry Techniques*, for which a booking code is available from the UKNSCN. If you are interested, please view the [EuroSciCon website](#).

[Back to INFORMATION Links](#)

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