

From: Executive Director (UKNSCN)
Sent: 02 June 2009 12:33
To: Executive Director (UKNSCN)
Subject: UK National Stem Cell Network (UKNSCN): News & Events Bulletin 17

Attachments: BHF Symposium - 5th June 09 .pdf
Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the seventeenth news and events bulletin issued by the UK National Stem Cell Network (UKNSCN). These bulletins 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. Your E-mail address appears on this list either because you requested it or for one of the following reasons:

- you are a member of a regional stem cell network
- you are a Research Council grant holder
- you attended the Town Meeting held on 5 July 2006 in London
- you are a member of the UK Stem Cell Funders' Forum or the Stem Cell User and Clinical Liaison Committee
- you have attended Research Council science workshops in the past
- you are known to the Network secretariat as an active member of the UK stem cell research community
- you have requested inclusion in the list
- you have attended the UKNSCN annual scientific meetings

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 1650 individuals, covering the following diversity of stakeholders: academics (of many disciplines), industrialists, charities, learned societies, professional associations, lawyers, venture capitalists, regulatory bodies, journalists 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 18 will be circulated on 2 July. Thank you.

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

NEWS

UKNSCN THIRD ANNUAL SCIENCE MEETING 2010 - DATES TO BE REVISED

Due to circumstances beyond UKNSCN's control, the proposed dates for next year's third annual science meeting will now change. UKNSCN is close to negotiating a contract with the favoured venue and will issue a press release to publicise the new dates (and venue) in the very near future. For those of you who had booked out 24-26 March 2010 in your diaries, you can now release those dates.

We will also be looking to secure and announce the dates and venue for the 2011 meeting in the coming weeks as we ramp up our advanced planning of UKNSCN

activities.

UKNSCN ON-LINE DISCUSSION FORUM

You are reminded that the UKNSCN on-line discussion forum currently has 3 fora open for contributions as follows:

Expertise Exchange Forum
Patenting in Stem Cells Forum
Future Role of UKNSCN Forum

Anyone can join the Forum via a short, on-line registration process which enables you to contribute postings. **Please note that this facility will shortly be used to actively promote collaborations between UK and Spanish stem cell researchers through expertise sharing - an initiative which UKNSCN is working on in close conjunction with the UK Stem Cell Bank. If you wish to participate in due course, you will need to register.** You can access the Forum at the link below

<http://www.uknscn.org/discussion/index.html>

INITIAL REGULATORY ROUTE MAP FOR UK STEM CELL RESEARCH & MANUFACTURE PUBLISHED

The first version of an 'Interim UK Regulatory Route Map for Stem Cell Research and Manufacture' has been released jointly by UK regulators as a reference tool for those who wish to develop a programme of stem cell research and manufacture, ultimately leading to clinical application. The map has been developed by the Department of Health with the support of the Gene Therapy Advisory Committee, Health & Safety Executive, Home Office, Human Fertilisation & Embryology Authority, Human Tissue Authority, Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, Medical Research Council, NHS Blood & Transplant Authority, Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service, Advisory Committee on the Safety of Blood, Tissues & Organs, & the UK Stem Cell Bank.

You can download the route map at the link below. This is a work in progress and the Department of Health's Gene Therapy Advisory Committee (GTAC) welcomes feedback on this map, which can be sent to gtac@dh.gsi.gov.uk.

[Download Regulatory Route Map](#)

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

The UK's Medical Research Council (MRC) has recently announced a new responsive mode funding scheme in translational stem cell research. The first three closing dates for outline proposals to the new Translational Stem Cell Research Committee (TSCRC) have now passed and the next closing date is 26 August 2009. There will be one further closing date in 2009 and further information is available via the link below, or from Catriona Crombie at [catriona.crombie@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk](mailto:crombie@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk).

[TSCRC Further Information and 2009 Closing Dates](#)

EUROPEAN HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL REGISTRY - FIRST NEWSLETTER ISSUED

On the first anniversary of its formation, the European Human Embryonic Stem Cell Registry has published its first newsletter which includes useful information on regulatory developments at the European level. The newsletter can be downloaded at the link below.

[Download Newsletter](#)

NEWS FROM THE USA

UKNSCN's contact in California, USA has provided the following short update on stem cell policymaking in the USA.

The NIH released its proposed guidelines for stem cell research on April 17 (to implement President Obama's Executive Order). These currently do not allow federal funding for research on cell lines created through SCNT, parthenogenesis and from IVF human embryos specifically created for research. The proposed guidelines were available for public comment for 30 days (now passed) and the final guidelines will be released by the agency on or before July 7. The draft guidelines which were published are available at <http://stemcells.nih.gov/policy/2009draft>.

In recent weeks, the Oklahoma Senate passed a bill that not only bans embryonic stem cell research, but makes it a criminal misdemeanor. The bill had previously passed the House by a wide margin and needs only the governor's signature to become law. This is the first in a number of states have introduced measures into their legislative process in response to President Obama's executive order, to severely restrict (or outright ban) research on embryonic stem cells (also Texas, Georgia, Mississippi).

EVENTS

Next London Regenerative Medicine Network (LRMN) Evening Meeting, Canary Wharf, London, UK, 4 June 2009

This will take place at the offices of Clifford Chance LLP at 10 Upper Bank Street, Canary Wharf on 4 June, commencing at 6pm. The speaker programme for this event includes the Ian Rosenberg Memorial Lecture which will be delivered by Philippe Menasche from the University of Paris Descartes. To register for this meeting, please contact Fiona Brown at: fiona.brown@lrnm.com. The subsequent LRMN meeting will take place on 6 July.

bioProcess UK Event - The Importance of Quality by Design in Biotherapeutic Development, London, 4 June 2009

Organised in conjunction with the BIA's Manufacturing Advisory Committee, this one-day workshop will take place at the Society for the Chemical Industry (SCI) at 14-15 Belgrave Square, London from 9.30am-5pm on 4 June. The workshop aims to 'demystify' Quality by Design and demonstrate the potential of adopting this philosophy and its applicability in biotherapeutics. Confirmed speakers include representatives from companies such as ReNeuron and Xenova, as well as academics such as David Williams from Loughborough University. For further information and to register (fees apply), please view the link below to the bioProcess UK website.

[Programme Details and Registration Form](#)

Inaugural British Heart Foundation Centre of Research Excellence Symposium, London, UK, 5 June 2009

This one-day symposium is titled *Challenge and Innovation in Cardiovascular Therapeutics* and will take place in the Alexander Fleming Building at Imperial College London on Friday 5th June from 9am to 7.30pm. The programme features international speakers and, in particular, Session 3 focuses upon *Cell and Gene Therapy - Prometheus and Pandora?* The keynote lecture will be delivered by Professor Sir John Bell (University of Oxford) who will speak on *Orchestrating a National Translational Research Strategy*. Attendance at this symposium is free, but delegates must register in advance by contacting Dr Katie Payne at k.payne@imperial.ac.uk. The full programme is contained within the attached flyer.

LRMN/BrAPP Regenerative Medicine Workshop for Clinicians, London, UK, 11 June 2009

Organised by the British Association of Pharmaceutical Physicians (BrAPP) and the London Regenerative Medicine Network (LRMN), this joint event has been designed solely for clinicians and BrAPP members interested in developments in stem cell technology and tissue engineering and the implications for pharmaceuticals. It will take place at the Society for the Chemical Industry (SCI) at 14-15 Belgrave Square from 12-5pm on 11 June. Interested delegates can register on-line (fees apply) at the first link below, and access further details about the workshop at the second link below.

[Registration Form and Payment Details](#)

[Workshop Programme and Further Enquiries](#)

Sheffield Annual Summer Training Course on Working With hESC Lines, Sheffield, UK, 24-26 June 2009

The Centre for Stem Cell Biology at the University of Sheffield is again holding its 3-day summer training course on working with human embryonic stem cell lines. This year's course runs from 24-26 June at the University of Sheffield. The course is open to postgraduate research students, postdoctoral researchers, senior researchers and technicians from universities, research institutes and industry who are intending to work with hESC lines. Only 16 places are available and the course may already be fully subscribed. For further information, view the link below or contact Claire Herridge at c.herridge@sheffield.ac.uk.

[Further Course Details](#)

European Cells & Materials (ECM) Conference: Stem Cells for Musculoskeletal Regeneration, Davos, Switzerland, 29 June - 1 July

The ECM 10 conference in Davos, Switzerland later this month focuses upon stem cells in musculoskeletal regeneration. Co-organised by Charlie Archer at Cardiff University, the conference will take place at the Congress Centre and carries professional accreditations. Full details concerning the programme, registration and accommodation are available via the ECM website at the link below.

[ECM Conference Homepage](#)

Next Meeting of the Scottish Stem Cell Biology Group, Edinburgh, UK, 2 July 2009

The next meeting of the Scottish Stem Cell Biology Group, sponsored by the Scottish Stem Cell Network, will take place at the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh on 2 July 2009 and is titled *Regeneration and Dedifferentiation*. Further information on invited speakers and registration is available via the link below, or from Jenna Chambers at jenna@sscn.co.uk.

[Programme Information and Registration](#)

7th ISSCR Annual Meeting, Barcelona, Spain, 8-11 July 2009

The ISSCR's seventh annual science meeting will take place in Barcelona, Spain from 8-11 July 2009. This is the first time the meeting has been held in Europe. On-line registration opened on 8 January 2009. The main conference and exhibition will be preceded by an ISSCR Public Symposium on the evening of Tuesday 7 July titled *Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Stem Cells But Were Afraid to Ask*. Further details are available at the links below. UKNSCN will be participating in the exhibition at the conference, in partnership with the UK Stem Cell Bank. We are taking a joint stand (No.120) with the Stem Cell Bank, so do please come and visit us at some point if you are attending the conference.

[ISSCR 2009 Meeting Website](#)

[Public Symposium Details](#)

8th Annual One-day International Human Embryonic Stem Cell Symposium, Sheffield, UK, 14 July 2009

The University of Sheffield's Centre for Stem Cell Biology (CSCB) is hosting its eighth one-day symposium on *Human Embryonic Stem Cells - Progress Towards Cell Therapy* on 14 July. The programme includes keynote speakers from overseas (Canada and Belgium) as well as leading UK speakers. The full programme and registration forms are available from the CSCB website at the link below.

[Programme Details and Registration Forms](#)

2009 KIDSTEM Annual Conference, University of Edinburgh, UK, 29-31 July 2009

This year's KIDSTEM Annual Conference will take place from 29-31 July at the University of Edinburgh. KIDSTEM is a Marie Curie European Research Training Network dedicated to the application of stem cells in renal development, repair and regeneration. Registration forms are now available via the website below. Please direct enquiries to the project administrator Louise Cooper at: louise.cooper@liv.ac.uk.

[KIDSTEM Conference Website](#)

NESCI Conference: Adult Stem Cells in Regenerative Medicine and Disease, Newcastle, UK, 26-27 August 2009

The Northeast England Stem Cell Institute (NESCI) and the Institute of Cellular Medicine at Newcastle University are jointly hosting a meeting on *Adult Stem Cells in Regenerative Medicine and Disease* at the Civic Centre in Newcastle on 26-27 August. The proposed speaker programme includes top UK speakers in addition to international keynote speakers from the USA and Canada. A couple of speakers will be selected from submitted abstracts. Registration forms (fees apply) are available from the NESCI website at the link below; the deadline for registration and also for submitting abstracts is 5 August.

[Programme Details and Registration Information](#)

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16th International Society of Developmental Biologists (ISDB) Congress, Edinburgh, UK, 6-10 September 2009

The 16th ISDB Congress takes place at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) from 6-10 September 2009, and includes a dedicated symposium session on *Stem Cells and Pluripotency*, sponsored by the UKNSCN. Further details and registration information are available via the congress website at the link below.

[Congress Website](#)

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John Innes Centre (JIC) Symposium: **Genetics 100 Years On**, John Innes Centre, Norwich, UK, 9-11 September 2009

To help celebrate 100 years of genetics at the John Innes Centre, the JIC will be hosting a major symposium featuring Sir Paul Nurse delivering the Bateson Lecture and Sydney Brenner concluding with "*Genetics 100 Years On*". UKNSCN has been asked to circulate this notice to the UK stem cell research community. For further information and registration details, please view the JIC website at the following link:

[Centenary Symposium Further Details](#)

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Hydra V European Summer School on Stem Cells & Regenerative Medicine, Hydra, Greece, 19-25 September 2009

The fifth week-long summer school on stem cells and regenerative medicine, organised by the EuroStemCell consortium (FP7), will again take place in Hydra, Greece from 19-25 September. The summer school is aimed at PhDs, post-doctoral researchers, emerging group leaders and research-active clinicians in the stem cell field, and is organised by Claire Blackburn and Austin Smith. The official closing date for applications passed on 24 April.

[Programme Details](#)

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ICSCN Conference on Stem Cells and Bioinformatics, Edinburgh, UK, 21-22 September 2009

Under the auspices of the International Consortium of Stem Cell Networks (ICSCN), the Scottish Stem Cell Network (SSCN) will be hosting an international meeting on stem cells and bioinformatics in Edinburgh from 21-22 September 2009. This will take place at the Our Dynamic Earth venue. Further details concerning the programme and registration will become available shortly via the SSCN website at the link below. In the meantime, a conference poster PDF and further details are available from Jenna Chambers at jenna@sscn.co.uk.

[SSCN Website Events Page](#)

2009 Genetics Policy Institute (GPI) World Stem Cell Summit, Baltimore, USA, 21-23 September 2009

The second GPI World Stem Cell Summit will take place at the Baltimore Convention Centre in Baltimore, Maryland from 21-23 September 2009. GPI anticipates the 2009 World Stem Cell Summit will attract more than 1200 of the world's most influential stem cell stakeholders in science, business, policy, law, ethics and advocacy. Additionally, 100-plus internationally renowned speakers will be present—producing a unique international network designed to foster collaborations, economic development, technology transfer, commercialisation, private investment and philanthropy. Registration is now open and full conference details can be found via the link below.

[Summit Details and Registration](#)

International Symposium on Stem Cell Transplantation in Multiple Sclerosis, Moscow, Russia, 5 October 2009

The Pirogov National Medical Surgical Centre in Moscow is leading the organisation of a major international symposium on stem cell transplantation in multiple sclerosis. This will take place at the Holiday Inn, Moscow Sokolniki on 5 October. Further details are available at the following link:

[Symposium Details and Registration](#)

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. Further details are 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](#)

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 is 15 September.

[Further Details](#)

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](#)

COURSES

2009 Summer School on Ethical and Policy Issues at the Cutting Edge of Stem Cell Science, Harvard University, USA, 15-19 June 2009

The Harvard Stem Cell Institute (Kevin Eggan) and Case Western Reserve University (Insoo Hyun) have teamed up to deliver a world-class summer school in June 2009 which is open to participation from overseas. This will be held at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts from 15-19 June 2009. Prospective participants should contact Insoo Hyun at insoo.hyun@case.edu for further details and regular updates.

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 aims to provide 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. Further information is available at the following URL:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/aa/postgraduate/courses/biomedical.html>

INFORMATION

PATENT WATCHING IN THE STEM CELL FIELD

Following a successful pilot project with good feedback from the community, the UKNSCN is continuing with two-monthly digests on patents information produced in conjunction with the Intellectual Property Office. The pilot digest for January-February 2009 is available for downloading from the UKNSCN website via the link below, and this link will be updated shortly with a new digest for March-April 2009. An archive of links to previous digests will be maintained as new ones are added.

http://www.uknscn.org/downloads/patent_digests.html

UPDATE FROM THE UK STEM CELL BANK

Cell Line Availability

The list of stem cell lines (15) 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
SHEF4	R-05-029		NCL-4	R-07-016
SHEF6	R-05-031		NCL-5	R-07-017
SHEF7	R-07-008		KCL-001-WT3	R-06-021
NOTT1	R-07-001		NOTT2	R-07-002
MEL-1	R-08-001			

The Bank recently led the organisation of a UK-Spain stem cells workshop, held at the Royal Society in London on 24/25 March 2009. A report of this meeting will be available shortly, which includes initiatives to promote collaboration between UK and Spanish stem cell researchers. The Bank will be working closely with the UKNSCN to develop the UKNSCN's on-line discussion forum software as a starting point for exchanging expertise information between the two countries' stem cell research communities. Keep an eye on the UKNSCN Discussion Forum, available via the link below.

[UKNSCN On-Line Discussion Forum](#)

To contact the bank, please send e-mail to enquiries@ukstemcellbank.org.uk.

Glyn Stacey, UK Stem Cell Bank

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 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](#)

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

The ESRC Stem Cell Initiative is issuing quarterly electronic bulletins to report on the latest social science research in stem cells and regenerative medicine. The fifth issue is now available at the following link and examines the scale-up of stem cell research. There are updates on research activities and events which are of particular interest to stem cell social scientists.

### [Fifth Electronic Bulletin](#)

If you wish to receive future ESRC bulletins automatically, you should send a request by E-mail to Stephanie Hazel-Gant at [sgj11@york.ac.uk](mailto:sgj11@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](#)

END