



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the thirtieth 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 **2200** 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 31 will be circulated on **31 August 2010**. Thank you.

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[Scottish Stem Cell Network \(SSCN\) Quarterly Newsletters](#)
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[REMEDIE EU Framework Programme 7 Consortium: Stakeholder Survey](#)
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NEWS

THIRD UKNSCN ANNUAL STEM CELL SCIENCE CONFERENCE IN NOTTINGHAM A GREAT SUCCESS

The third annual UKNSCN conference took place on 12-14 July at the University of Nottingham, with 450 delegates in attendance over the three days and 45 companies participating in the trade exhibition (full). The conference featured a packed science programme including some of the most exciting and cutting-edge developments in the UK stem cell and regenerative medicine field. There were also a number of overseas speakers, and delegates from a wide range of locations and scientific backgrounds. The UKNSCN would like to thank all speakers, plenary session chairs and parallel workshop convenors for their role in the conference, and all delegates for attending the conference and making it such a success.

UKNSCN [press releases](#) relating to science presented at the conference can be found on the UKNSCN website. Members may also be interested to learn that no fewer than **209 items** of media coverage were generated from science presented at the conference, including radio, television, internet and a wide range of printed material. We would also like to thank all attendees who have so far filled out evaluation forms, and we would welcome further feedback via the forms recently circulated by e-mail to all delegates.

Finally, we would once again like to thank all our sponsors and exhibitors for their generous support of the 2010 conference. Formal sponsors were: University of Nottingham, Miltenyi Biotec Ltd, Stemcell Technologies Inc., Cyntellect Europe Ltd, the Science and Technology Department of the French Embassy in London, BioCity Nottingham, Medilink East Midlands, Tocris Bioscience, Thermo Scientific, ReNeuron Group plc, BD Biosciences and Epistem plc. You can view their hyperlinked logos on the [UKNSCN 2010 conference homepage](#). **Please note that this page will shortly be updated with a summary of the conference and a full photo gallery from the proceedings.** As a guide to what to expect, you may wish to view the [2009 photo gallery](#) from the Oxford conference

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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. Please contact the UKNSCN Executive Director (uksa@uknscn.org) if you are interested in sponsoring the 2011 conference.

*****LATEST NEWS***:** Professor Gail Martin from the University of California, San Francisco, will deliver the fourth **Dame Anne McLaren Memorial Lecture** at the York conference.

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WELLCOME TRUST FUNDING SCHEMES OF INTEREST TO THE STEM CELL/REGENERATIVE MEDICINE COMMUNITY

In the **first** of a planned series of funding scheme articles to be included in future monthly e-bulletins from UKNSCN, the Wellcome Trust has kindly provided a digest of its current schemes. This is provided below, with hyperlinks to several funding mechanisms which are of broad interest to the stem cell research and regenerative medicine community. UKNSCN hopes you find this information useful and welcomes feedback as ever.



[The Wellcome Trust](#) is a global charity dedicated to achieving extraordinary improvements in human and animal health. We support the brightest minds in biomedical research and the medical humanities. Our breadth of support includes public engagement, education and the application of research to improve health. Although we do not currently have any specific initiatives in the area of stem cell research, most of our funding schemes apply across the biomedical sciences including the field of stem cell research.

Biomedical Science Awards

Investigator Awards

These new awards build on our strategic goal of supporting the brightest researchers with the best ideas, and extend our successful fellowships funding model to researchers in established academic posts. The scheme, which replaces some of our current grant schemes, will open for main applications from 1 October 2010.

[New Investigator Awards](#)

[Senior Investigator Awards](#)

Strategic Awards in Biomedical Science

Strategic Awards provide flexible forms of support to excellent research groups with outstanding track records in their field. They are funded in partnership with the host institution(s).

[Strategic Awards in Biomedical Science](#)

Fellowships and Personal Awards

Opportunities for support are available for postdoctoral researchers in basic biomedical science and for clinicians at each stage of their career.

Competitions with deadlines coming up are:

[Research Career Development Fellowships in Basic Biomedical Science](#)

[Intermediate Clinical Fellowships](#)

[Senior Research Fellowships in Clinical Science](#)

Other fellowship schemes fall into the following categories:

[Basic Biomedical Fellowships](#)

[Clinical Fellowships](#)

[International Fellowships](#)

[Principal Research Fellowships](#)

PhD Programmes and Studentships

PhD support is available through the following programmes, some of which are relevant to the stem cell field:

[Clinical PhD Programmes](#)

[Four-year PhD Studentship Programmes](#)

[Joint Basic and Clinical PhD Studentship Programmes](#)

[Translational Medicine and Therapeutics Programmes](#)

[Wellcome Trust and NIH Four-year PhD Studentships](#)

Technology Transfer

Technology Transfer helps to bridge the gap between fundamental research and commercial application by funding applied research and development projects to a stage where they are attractive to a follow-on funder, such as venture capital firms, industry and public-private partnerships. We support a wide array of projects across a [spectrum of technologies and therapeutic areas](#); our key criterion is that the project addresses an unmet medical need or is an enabling tool in healthcare research and development. Two major types of funding that may be of relevance to researchers and companies in the stem cell area are [Translation Awards](#) and [Strategic Translation Awards](#).

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UKNSCN TENTH PATENTS DIGEST FOR MAY-JUNE 2010 NOW AVAILABLE

The Network's tenth '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 May 2010 to 30 June 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 82 pages long and contains brief bibliographic information on 292 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:

230 published patents: 123 adult, 83 embryonic, 24 iPS

62 granted patents: 36 adult, 24 embryonic, 2 iPS

The next digest for July/August will be published in late-September.

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SURVEY ON THE USE OF AMNIOTIC MEMBRANE FOR STEM CELL RESEARCH PURPOSES

The UKNSCN has teamed up with the NHS Blood and Transplant Service (NHSBT) to help it elicit the stem cell community's view on a potential new service which it is considering providing to the research community. That is, the banking of amniotic membrane tissue for research purposes. Attached to this bulletin, you will find a draft datasheet which has been prepared by the NHSBT to highlight the types of product which could be made available at charge to stem cell researchers and others. UKNSCN/NHSBT would be most grateful if you could take some time to consider the following questions, and provide your answers directly to staff at the NHSBT via: amnion@nhsbt.nhs.uk. **Please do not hit reply to this message.** The questions are:

1. Would any of these products be useful to your research?
2. How many would you be likely to require per month or year?
3. From where do you currently source this type of tissue?
4. Is there anything that you would change about the proposed product range in the attached datasheet e.g. size, processing, packaging etc?

[Click Here to Respond](#)

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ISSCR LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE ON STEM CELL TREATMENTS

On Tuesday 8 June, the International Society for Stem Cell Research (ISSCR) published a report from its Task Force on Unproven Stem Cell Treatments and launched a new website on: [A Closer Look at Stem Cell Treatments](#). The website is an information **resource** aimed at patients, their families and doctors to provide resources that explain fundamental scientific principles of stem cell biology and their implications for stem cell treatments, outline the widely accepted process of clinical translation, and provide **questions** that a patient and/or caregiver should ask purveyors of asserted stem cell treatments to aid them in making treatment decisions. The ISSCR Task Force developed this website following widespread concern that stem cell treatments are being marketed to patients worldwide for a variety of medical conditions, without having mechanisms in place to promote safety or likely benefit.

The UKNSCN issued a [press release](#) welcoming the Task Force report and new website, which you can view at the link above.

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ISSCR 2010 CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, 16-19 JUNE 2010

Post-conference information from the ISSCR's eighth annual science meeting held in California in June is now available on the [ISSCR website](#). Included on the site is a link to a video recording from the public symposium which preceded the conference on 15 June in San Francisco, and which was held in partnership with the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM).

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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 in June and can be viewed at [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,

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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 is imminent 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.

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The First Year - An Analysis of UKNSCN Stem Cell Patent Digests November 2008 to October 2009

As part of its collaboration with UKNSCN, the UKIPO has published an analysis of the first year of the bimonthly stem cell patents digest it produces for UKNSCN. The report contains detailed analysis of both granted and applied-for patents, their worldwide and UK geographic spread, the types of patent holders i.e. academics or corporations, and the type of stem cell research to which they relate. The report is freely available to download from the [UKNSCN website](#). The UKNSCN politely asks anyone who uses this report for analysis to acknowledge the UKIPO as authors, and the UKNSCN as acting in collaboration.

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THE COMPANY OF BIOLOGISTS LAUNCHES 'THE NODE'

The Company of Biologists has recently launched '[The Node](#)', an exciting new on-line resource for developmental biologists. The Node is a community resource for: sharing and discussing news within the developmental biology (including stem cells) community; keeping up-to-date with publications via the table-of-contents feeds from other developmental biology journals; obtaining information about meetings and events throughout the year; and blogging with other registered users.

To register your interest contact thenode@biologists.com, and for more information visit dev.biologists.org

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iPS CELLS SUCCESSFULLY GENERATED FROM FROZEN WHITE BLOOD CELLS

Reported recently in the journal *Cell Stem Cell*, white blood cells (WBC) from frozen blood samples have been successfully reprogrammed into iPS cells by vector expression of the four classic re-programming genes Oct3/4, Sox2, Klf4, and c-Myc. This latest development represents a significant step in the development of iPSC technology, since white blood cells represent an easy-to-obtain source of cells for reprogramming compared with dermal fibroblasts typically obtained by puncture biopsy from the skin. Three separate groups have published this work in parallel; see the recent issue of [BioNews](#) for further details and links to the original articles.

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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 Assistant Programme Manager](#) and we will do the rest. [New vacancies](#) are being posted on a regular basis now, so you are invited to take a look.

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UKNSCN SMALL AWARDS SCHEME – REMINDER ON FUNDING FOR MEETINGS

You are reminded that the [UKNSCN Small Awards Scheme](#) for 2010/11 still has funds remaining for applications from academics seeking to offset the costs of hosting/organising national-level meetings which cross the various disciplines of stem cell science and translation. View the link above for the scheme criteria, amount of funding available and application process.

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EVENTS

Tissue and Cell Engineering Society (TCES) 2010 Annual Conference, Manchester, UK, 28-30 July 2010

The TCES is holding its 2010 annual conference at the University of Manchester from 28-30 July 2010. An exciting programme of speakers includes a UKNSCN-sponsored keynote presentation by Matthias Lutolf from Lausanne, Switzerland, who will speak on designing materials to direct stem cell fate. The conference dinner on the evening of day 2 (29 July) will be held at the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry Air and Space Hall. On-line registration is now closed, but information about the conference is available via the [TCES website](#). This excellent cross-disciplinary conference is being hosted by Drs Julie Gough and Stephen Richardson from the Schools of Materials and Biomedicine.

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European Workshop on Skin Stem Cells, Cambridge, UK, 31 August – 2 September 2010

Sponsored by the EMBO Young Investigators Programme, the University of Cambridge is hosting a workshop titled *Stem Cells in Skin – From Morphogenesis to Cancer Development* from 31 August to 2 September 2010. This will take place at Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge. [On-line registration](#) and programme information are now available and the deadline for the submission of abstracts is **15 August**. A number of abstracts will be selected for oral presentation at the workshop. The contact point for further information is Dr Michaela Frye: michaela.frye@cancer.org.uk.

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Third Annual Limbal Stem Cell Meeting, Reading, UK, 10 September 2010

The University of Reading is hosting the third annual meeting for the UK limbal stem cell community on 10 September. Registration for this meeting is free, but places are limited. The meeting includes two keynote speakers sponsored via the UKNSCN's [Small Awards Scheme](#): Professor Friedrich Kruse from the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg in Germany, and Dr Dek Woolfson from the University of Bristol. To attend this meeting, please access the [on-line registration](#) site. Alternatively, further information is available from Dr Che Connon at: c.j.connon@reading.ac.uk.

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Cancer Research UK London Research Institute Stem Cell Club Meeting, London, UK, 27 September 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 fifth club meeting of 2010 takes place on **27 September** and further details are available via the [London Research Institute website](#). Meetings typically run from 5.30pm to 7.30pm, unless otherwise advertised.

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International Society for Cellular Therapy (ISCT) Second Annual Symposium, San Francisco, USA, 27-28 September 2010

The ISCT is holding its second annual symposium *Stem Cell Translation: Strategies, Best Practices & Regulatory Considerations* at the UCSF Mission Bay Conference Centre in San Francisco from 27-28 September 2010. Further details and [on-line registration](#) are now available.

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Third GPI World Stem Cell Summit, Detroit, Michigan, USA, 4-6 October 2010 - poster abstract deadline extended to 27 August

The US-based Genetics Policy Institute (GPI) is holding its third World Stem Cell Summit in Detroit, Michigan from 4-6 October 2010. The World Stem Cell Summit is a major event in the global stem cell and regenerative medicine calendar. The Summit brings together scientists, patients, advocates, business people, investors, educators, ethicists, policy makers, and government representatives from around the world. It provides a unique opportunity to network and make new connections, share knowledge, and collaborate with the best and brightest to tackle the field's most important issues. The poster abstract submission deadline has now been extended to **27 August**. Further information about the programme and venue is available via the [summit's website](#).

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New York Stem Cell Foundation Fifth Annual Translational Stem Cell Research Conference, New York, USA, 12-13 October 2010

The [New York Stem Cell Foundation's](#) fifth annual translational stem cell research conference *Revolutionising Cures* will be held on 12-13 October 2010 at the Rockefeller University in New York City, USA. The NYSCF conference is unique in focusing on translational stem cell research that demonstrates the potential to advance cures for the major diseases of our time. It is designed for all professionals with an interest in stem cell research, including physicians, researchers, clinical investigators, professors, government and health officials, postdoctoral fellows and graduate students.

Programme details and on-line registration are now available via the [NYSCF conference homepage](#).

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Fifth Fraunhofer Life Science Symposium Leipzig, Germany, 29-30 October 2010

The fifth annual Fraunhofer Life Science Symposium *Immunotherapy: the cutting edge of stem cell applications* takes place from 29-30 October 2010 in Leipzig, Germany.

The programme features sessions focused on cell therapy for: inflammatory disease, oncological disease, immune and autoimmune disorders, and haematological disease. Discounted registration is available online until **15 September**, and the deadline for poster abstract submission has been extended to **8 August**. Further details are available via the [registration site](#).

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The HealthTech and Medicines KTN is hosting its seventh annual BioProcessUK conference at the Midland Hotel in Manchester from 24-25 November 2010. This is being underpinned by Bionow. The programme will centre upon the theme of *Building Success Through Innovation* and [on-line registration](#) is now open (fees apply).

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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 is **1 August 2010**. For further information, view the link above or contact Prof Alexander Seifalian at a.seifalian@ucl.ac.uk.

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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 was 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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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Masters (MSc) Course in Biomedicine, Bioscience and Society, London School of Economics

This Masters course provides the chance to study social aspects and implications of recent developments in bioscience, biomedicine and biotechnology in the only specialist institution for the social sciences in the UK. The programme offers teaching by staff active in current research on social aspects and implications of bioscience, biomedicine and biotechnology who are renowned in their fields, across the social sciences; an opportunity to benefit from the exciting range of research projects and staff associated with the BIOS research centre; and the chance to consolidate or extend your knowledge of social aspects of the life sciences and biomedicine. The course is suitable for those with diverse requirements: those with a medical or bioscience background wishing to change to study social aspects of bioscience; those interested in the sociology of science and technology with a particular focus on the life sciences and biomedicine; those aiming for a career in science policy; those from less developed countries wishing to be involved in the making of their own science and technology policy in this key area; or those wishing to proceed to advanced research in social aspects of the life sciences. Further information about the course and the applications process is available via the [LSE website](#).

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MSc (or post-graduate diploma/certificate) in Stem Cells and Regeneration, University of Bristol

The University of Bristol is running a distance learning MSc in Stem Cells and Regeneration. The course provides students with knowledge and understanding of the highly topical and exciting field of stem cell biology and regeneration. Students will be guided from the origins of this field through to its application (and potential applications) in treating human disease, covering the latest tools and technologies available for study in this area. Course content will be delivered by researchers active in this field, meaning the very latest breakthroughs and research themes will be communicated.

The course structure will be based on an innovative distance-learning model which will make use of the internet to deliver lectures, on-line discussions and assessments. Students are only required to visit Bristol for the completion of their formal examinations. The distance learning model together with a part-time study option means that students can continue in full-time employment whilst studying for this qualification.

There is also the option to study for a postgraduate diploma or certificate, rather than the full MSc.

Please see [University of Bristol, MSc in Stem Cells and Regeneration](#) for more details

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INFORMATION

UPDATE FROM THE UK STEM CELL BANK

UKNSCN Annual Stem Cell Science Conference

The UKSCB's presence at the UKNSCN annual event was a very effective way of raising the profile of the UKSCB and facilitating interaction with the UK stem cell community. The UKSCB would like to thank all of you who came to meet with us at our exhibition stand. It was an excellent opportunity to know more about your work and how we could assist you better.

First UK Stem Cell Bank Open Forum

The former 'Clinical' and 'User' Liaison Committees which provided the UK stem cell community's feedback mechanism to the 'Steering Committee for the UK Stem Cell Bank and for the Use of Stem Cell Lines', ceased to exist in 2009 and have now been replaced by an annual UK Stem Cell Bank Open Forum. The first of these events was held at the UKNSCN annual meeting in Nottingham. To download the presentations please visit the [UKSCB website](#). These presentations will also be available from the [UKNSCN 2010 conference homepage](#) shortly.

TSB Funding for Collaborative Research

A new collaborative research project was announced at the UKNSCN annual conference in Nottingham. Orla Protein Technologies Ltd, the UKSCB and Newcastle University have been awarded a grant by the [Technology Strategy Board \(TSB\)](#) to develop a technology which could dramatically improve the way cells are grown in the laboratory. Visit the [UKSCB website](#) to read more.

National Clinical hESC Forum

The National Clinical hESC Forum was held in Nottingham in parallel with the UKNSCN annual conference. Glyn Stacey, Director of the UKSCB, chaired discussions between representatives of the UKSCB, major UK derivation centres and the Department of Health. The meeting focused on issues relating to clinical hESC lines.

Cell Line Availability

A detailed list of stem cell lines **currently available and supplied free of charge** from the UKSCB can be found on our [website](#). These are all **human embryonic stem cell lines** intended solely for research purposes. In addition, there are cell lines banked which are awaiting release in the very near future, including the first **foetal neural stem cell line**.

UKSCB Online Survey

We would like to thank all those who have responded to our on-line survey. We are still interested in hearing from you. If you have not already submitted a response we would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to fill out the **online survey** by visiting <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/M9SQNNF>. The purpose of this survey is to help us improve current services and identify new products or services we could provide, that would be of use to you.

Recent Publications

- Stacey GN (2010) Current Developments in Cell Culture. In: New Technologies for In Vitro Toxicology, Eds Bhogal, N., Balls, M., Landes Bioscience/Eurekah, in press
- Stacey, GN. and Merten, O-W (2010) Host Cells and Cell Banking, In: Viral Vectors for Gene Therapy: Methods and Protocols. Eds *Al-Rubeai M. and Merten O-W*, Springer Science+Business Media LLC, in press.
- Stacey, G.N. (2010) Cell Culture Contamination. In: Cancer Cell Culture: Methods and Protocols. Ed Cree, IA., Springer Science+Business media LLC, in press.

Get to Know the UK Stem Cell Bank

During 2010, the Bank will run a series of 'roadshow' events across the UK. We welcome enquiries from scientists, clinicians and companies who may be interested in arranging a meeting with us in their region. The roadshows provide a great opportunity to meet representatives from the Bank, hear about the Bank's current activities and provide feedback on what you feel the Bank should be doing for you.

To contact the UKSCB please send an e-mail to: enquiries@ukstemcellbank.org.uk

Dr Iphigenie Charatsi, UKSCB Business Manager, July 2010

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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](#).

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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](#). The most recent issue (spring/summer 2010) is available.

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European Human Embryonic Stem Cell Registry Sixth Newsletter Available

Europe's hESC Registry recently 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.

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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-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.

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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 on the [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 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.

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ESRC Genomics Network Research Briefing on HFE Act 2008 – 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.

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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. 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](#).

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