



Queen's University
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Bulletin

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Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology,
School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences,
Queen's University Belfast,
97 Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT9 7AE
T: +44 (028) 9097 2760
W: www.qub.ac.uk/ccrcb

FIRST CCRCB OPEN DAY TO BE HELD ON 9 MAY

The CCRCB Engagement Committee are busy organising the first ever CCRCB Open Day to be held on Saturday 9 May 2015. This will be an opportunity for supporters of all the charities funding research in the building, QUB alumni who support the CCRCB and members of the public to get a behind-the-scenes look at what happens in the Centre.

There will be a whole range of activities in the building from 11.00am – 3.00pm including

lab tours on all floors, discussions, talks, videos, exhibitions, activities for families and more. Definitely something for everyone!

To register for the event please visit:
<http://go.qub.ac.uk/Hnbc>

Mark your calendars now for this great new event!



MITCHELL LECTURE 2015



Professor Lisa Coussens with Professor David Waugh and participants at the CCRCB Women in Science Event

The Mitchell Lecture, entitled "Inflammation and Cancer: Good Cells Behaving Badly", was delivered on 5 March 2015 by Professor Lisa Coussens. Professor Coussens is the Chair of the Department of Cell, Developmental & Cancer Biology, and Associate Director for Basic Research in the Knight Cancer Institute at Oregon Health & Sciences University (OHSU) and holds the Hildegard Lamfrom Chair in Basic Science.

Professor Coussens has received the prestigious Gertrude B. Elion Award from the American Association of Cancer Research (AACR), the Mallinckrodt Award

for Medical Science, a V Foundation Scholar Award for her novel discoveries regarding the role of matrix metalloproteinases as critical regulators of epithelial cancer development. More recently, Professor Coussens was awarded two sequential Era of Hope Scholar Awards from the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program to support her novel investigations of chronic inflammation as a regulator of breast carcinogenesis.

In 2011, she and her clinical collaborators received a Susan G. Komen Promise Grant to conduct a multi-center trial to evaluate

novel therapeutic approaches for treatment of metastatic breast cancer. In 2012, she was the recipient of the AACR-Women in Cancer Research Charlotte Friend Memorial Lectureship, and is the recipient of the 13th Rosalind E. Franklin Award from the National Cancer Institute in 2015.

More recently, Professor Coussens was awarded a Stand-Up-To-Cancer grant focussed on clinical evaluation of immune-based therapies in pancreatic cancer. Her contributions to this international team are based on her laboratory's identification of B cells and humoral immune-mediated factors regulating T cells and immune suppression in squamous and pancreas cancer. Specifically, her studies are supporting evaluation of a Bruton's tyrosine kinase (BTK) inhibitor (ibrutinib) plus chemotherapy in Phase Ib/II clinical trials of pancreatic cancer and Head and Neck cancer patients.

During her visit Professor Coussens also participated in the first **CCRCB Women in Science** event. This took the format of an informal interview with Professor Coussens, who shared her career pathway and her life as an international scientist. More than 20 female staff and students from the Centre attended and described the event as motivational, inspiring and a great opportunity to learn about the person behind the science.

CRUK / CCRCB VIDEO COMPETITION A HUGE SUCCESS!



First place winners from Antrim Grammar School with Professor David Waugh

Cancer Research UK and the CCRCB joined forces to sponsor a unique competition for AS-level Biology students in Northern Ireland. The students were asked to assume the role of 'marketing manager' for the CCRCB and to develop a two minute video to support one of the focus areas of the centre. Students could enter as individuals or in teams of up to four.

Seventeen videos were received, representing the work of over fifty students from thirteen different schools across Northern Ireland. A group of judges drawn from the CCRCB Engagement Committee plus Amanda McKittrick, Head of QUB Video Services, scored each entry against the competition criteria and six videos were selected as semi-finalists. The sixteen

students who created the semi-finalist videos were invited to a day in the labs at the CCRCB on 4 February 2015, which was also World Cancer Day.

The students heard keynote talks from CCRCB Director Professor David Waugh and Dr Karen McCloskey as well as a welcome from Margaret Carr on behalf of CRUK. They then had a 'speed dating' session, hearing briefly from a range of CCRCB staff about how they came to a career in cancer research and what their work entails. They heard from technical, clinical and lab-based staff as well as clinical trials staff, research nursing staff, epidemiologists, and bioinformaticians.

The majority of their day was spent in the labs where Dr Jules Gorski and a number of other volunteers led them in extracting DNA from a strawberry and making a DNA double helix from jelly babies. They also got to run a PCR and analyze the findings. The day ended with a reception which included parents and teachers, and an announcement of the winners. Winners received cash prizes kindly donated by Path XL and Almac.

- First place £300: Antrim Grammar School – Brain Tumours
- Second place £200: Dromore High School – Breast Cancer
- Third Place £100: St Louis Grammar, Ballymena – Prostate Cancer
- Other semi-finalists included Belfast High School and Sperrin Integrated College (two videos)

'SCIENCE SUPERHEROES' AT NI SCIENCE FESTIVAL

A group of twenty dedicated 'Science Superheroes' took over the lab and activity room of W5 at the Odyssey for the biggest day of the inaugural NI Science Festival on Saturday 21 February 2015.

There were 'science buskers' roaming throughout W5 testing out people's 'supertaster' and 'supersmeller' capacity and encouraging them to head upstairs where there were more activities. In the lab, biology experiments (Strawberry DNA) and chemistry experiments

(showing off some of the key elements that make up the human body) took place every half hour and were completely sold out for every time slot. Parents had to sit on the sidelines, but enjoyed the lab work too!

In the activity room there was a wide range of activities for adults and kids of all ages. There was a competition to find the fastest chromosome sock pairer (who was much faster than any of the scientists!), and an opportunity to make a cell from air dough or a DNA

double helix from jelly babies. People could 'hook a duck' to find out more about personalised medicine or play our targeted therapy game. There was also cancer prevention information available and adults could have their BMI calculated.

Estimates are that we interacted directly with over 750 different people, nearly half of everyone who visited W5 on the day.

NORTHERN IRELAND MEPS PRAISE IMPACT OF CANCER RESEARCH AT QUEEN'S

Northern Ireland MEPs, Diane Dodds and Jim Nicholson, were at the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB) at Queen's University on 6 February 2015 to see first-hand the ground-breaking research taking place and hear how it is improving patient care.

The visit was organised one year after an initiative led by Queen's resulted in the signing of the European Cancer Patient's Bill of Rights in the European Parliament in Strasbourg. The Bill was signed by all three Northern Ireland MEPs, including Martina Anderson.

The three Northern Ireland MEPs have pledged to work together with researchers from Queen's to maximise opportunities to advance cancer research and cancer care at European level. Professor Patrick Johnston, Vice Chancellor of Queen's University Belfast, said: "We are delighted to welcome our European representatives to Queen's and greatly appreciate the cross party support for a Northern Ireland led initiative that is impacting on the lives of cancer patients. It also gives us the opportunity to showcase the excellent cancer research we are doing here at Queen's."

During their visit, the MEPs heard from Professor David Waugh, Director of the CCRCB at Queen's University Belfast, who outlined how Belfast has become a leader in bringing discovery science from 'research to reality'. He said: "Everything we do here in CCRCB is patient focussed. If it doesn't have a line of sight to the patient, we don't do it. Born in Belfast, Led by Belfast is increasingly our mantra and we are driving a Precision Cancer Medicine Programme that converts our best research to new diagnostics and medicines for the benefit of patients."



Professor David Waugh, Professor Mark Lawler, Jim Nicholson MEP and Diane Dodds MEP with the European Cancer Patient's Bill of Rights

Over 300 researchers are developing new ways to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer at Queen's, reflecting the University's vision to conduct leading edge research, focussed on the needs of society.

Commenting on the visit, Diane Dodds MEP, said: "Many of the researchers we met today showed a real passion for their work, and this will undoubtedly lead to better outcomes for Northern Ireland patients."

Jim Nicholson MEP said: "The quality of the science and the patient centred vision means that the research performed here will make a real difference for patients, both locally and globally."

Expressing her support for the research, Martina Anderson MEP, said: "The leadership that Queen's has shown in addressing cancer inequalities and in performing life-saving research is inspiring."

One of the lead architects of the European Cancer Patients Bill of Rights launched last year is Professor Mark Lawler, Chair in Translational Cancer Genomics at Queen's University Belfast and Chair of the Research Working Group of the European Alliance for Personalised Medicine. He said: "Cancer knows no boundaries, it affects all members of our society. It is extremely gratifying that we can all come together united by a single aim: to confront our common enemy...cancer."

CCRCB ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY



School pupils taking part in the lab practical sessions

Around 160 Year 10 pupils from schools in the Dungannon Area Learning Partnership attended a research discovery day, hosted by Dr Karen McCloskey as part of her 'Inspiring Lives-Creating Futures' RC-UK funded project. Pupils learned about the positive impact of research on cancer treatment and studied cancer biology through a tutorial, practical sessions and an interactive quiz. The pupils are currently making their GCSE choices and the opportunity to spend time with the research team in CCRCB has given them insight into careers within cancer research and medicine.

ACADEMIC STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Ian Mills – Reader in Translational Prostate Cancer Biology



Dr Ian Mills is a newly appointed Reader in CCRCB. His overarching research aims are to improve therapy responses and risk stratification in prostate cancer. His work focuses on the impact of transcriptional regulation on prostate cancer metabolism and stress responses. He is interested in metabolic changes as intrinsic drivers of drug resistance in prostate cancer through induction of phenotypes ranging from autocrine hormone biosynthesis to cytokine production. He has previously established the Uro-Oncology Research Group in Cambridge working

alongside Professor David Neal. In 2010 he set up a prostate research group in Oslo within the Centre for Molecular Medicine Norway (NCMM) within the University of Oslo/Oslo University Hospital. The group there works on the hexosamine biosynthesis pathway as a feedback modulator of the unfolded protein response and drug responses in prostate cancer cells. Further exploring the relationship between metabolism and prostate cancer they have identified genetic risk loci that are enriched in both prostate cancer cases and hypercholesterolemia. The

group is involved in identifying prognostic biomarkers for prostate cancer in urine and blood samples utilising Scandinavian cohorts with clinical follow-up data from the Norwegian and Swedish Cancer Registries and in conjunction with the Movember Global Action Plan initiative. CCRCB provides a great opportunity to apply this work to radiotherapy response within the framework of the newly established FASTMAN Centre and to further develop national and international collaborations.

Darragh McArt – Lecturer in Translational Cancer Bioinformatics



Dr Darragh McArt was appointed as a Lecturer in Translational Cancer Bioinformatics in January 2015. His research focuses on integrative analysis of disparate datasets on multiple cancer types and the development of translational next generation sequencing and high throughput analysis in molecular pathology. Through collaboration with Molecular Pathology, Digital Pathology and NIB initiatives, Darragh co-leads on the development of a novel

“integromics” platform called PICAN for the management of clinical, phenotypic and genotypic data. This system has been key to tissue biomarker discovery in breast cancer and other diseases. He will also be a key bioinformatics lead in the new genomic expansion in the CCRCB. Dr McArt has worked as a postdoctoral researcher in QUB for the connectivity mapping research group under Dr Shu-Dong Zhang developing parallel programming architecture

and perturbation models. Later, he became the lead bioinformatician for the Northern Ireland Molecular Pathology Laboratory under Professor Manuel Salto-Tellez. Darragh has also spent time training in NCI Fredrick, Maryland and in Darmstadt, Germany. He joins an expanding translational bioinformatics and molecular diagnostics programme within the CCRCB.

Jaine Blayney – Lecturer in Translational Cancer Bioinformatics



Dr Jaine Blayney was appointed as a Lecturer in Translational Cancer Bioinformatics in April 2015. After obtaining an MSc degree in Computing and Information Systems at the University of Ulster in 2002, Jaine co-ordinated an IT network systems programme for adult-returns in the further education sector. She completed her PhD in Bioinformatics (protein tertiary structure prediction) at Ulster University (UU) in 2008. Jaine’s first post-doctoral position was with the European CardioWorkBench programme identifying biomarkers and drug targets in cardiomyopathy. She joined QUB CCRCB as a post-doctoral Research Fellow

in 2009, initially working on characterising lung cancer sub-groups, later joining Professor Richard Kennedy’s Stratified Medicine Group to work on ovarian and prostate cancer molecular sub-typing. In October 2013, Jaine moved to the Stratified Medicine Centre at UU as a Lecturer in Computational Biology, co-ordinating two biostatistics/bioinformatics modules in the undergraduate and postgraduate Stratified Medicine degrees. Jaine’s main interest is in translational bioinformatics, in particular identifying novel biostatistical methods for the transfer of prior knowledge, including gene signatures, across independent

platforms and technologies e.g. microarray to next generation sequencing datasets. Using such methods Jaine has predicted, and subsequently validated, the tumour of origin and histology of epithelial ovarian cancer cell lines. She is also interested in data integration strategies and in identifying software solutions for computational bottlenecks in biostatistical analytical pipelines. Jaine has a strong interest in promoting the recruitment and retention of women in STEM, contributing to the SWAN self-assessment teams in both QUB and UU and serving on the committee of the Women in Technology and Science all-Ireland networking group.

'REVEALING RESEARCH' TRAINING FOR RESEARCHERS



CCRCB staff take part in the researcher training session

Cancer Research UK offered a half day workshop on 8 December 2014 entitled 'Revealing Research'. Thirty places were available and all were taken; attendees included technical staff, PhD students, post-docs and PIs. Dr Rebecca Scott from CRUK led a range of activities designed to encourage thinking about the wide range of ways they could engage the public with their research.

The Twitter challenge forced people to describe their research in the 140 characters allowed for a tweet – and using only the 1000 most common words - not easy! Attendees then had the opportunity to see and work with several CRUK activities developed by researchers in other centres, and then got stuck in to the difficult challenge of creating a new activity to explain their work.

Feedback from the day was very positive and, subject to demand, the workshop will be run again in the autumn. Those attending suggested follow up workshops on public speaking and science writing which will also be explored for autumn.

HEAD OF RESEARCH FOR NEW MERGED BREAST CANCER CHARITY VISITS CCRCB

Following the announcement of the merger of Breast Cancer Campaign and Breakthrough Breast Cancer, Dr Elizabeth Robertson (Head of Research of the merged Charity) visited the CCRCB on Friday 20 March 2015. The Breast Cancer Focus group presented current research from the CCRCB and School of Pharmacy, as well as an overview of the clinical trial portfolio currently running

in the Northern Ireland Cancer Trials Centre.

Dr Robertson outlined that the funding strategies for the new merged Charity (whose name is yet to be announced) will remain unchanged with project, pilot fellowship and PhD grants still being funded as per the previous BCC strategy as well as more long term driven

funding from the Breakthrough centres/units. The charity hopes to host a "think tank" meeting in September bringing together researchers funded from both sides of the charity to discuss the long term future funding options for the new charity, as well as overall strategies to improve breast cancer treatment and outcomes for patients.

FASTMAN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

The 24 and 25 March 2015 saw the first meeting of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) for the PCUK/Movember funded FASTMAN Centre of Excellence Programme. This collaboration between Queen's University Belfast and the University of Manchester has been underway for just under nine months and has brought together world class researchers working in partnership to

develop a real understanding of Prostate Cancer and how to fight this disease.

The SAB was hosted by the University of Manchester and we were delighted to welcome Dr Kenneth J. Pienta M.D, The Donald S. Coffey Professor of Urology, The Johns Hopkins Hospital and Dr Robert G. Bristow M.D, PhD, FRCPC, Senior Scientist, Princess

Margaret Cancer Centre who, through their expertise within this field, provided feedback on the achievements of the Centre of Excellence to date as well as guidance on how best to proceed. We look forward to welcoming Dr Pienta and Dr Bristow to Belfast in September 2016 for the next Scientific Advisory Board meeting.

CCRCB REACHES OUT TO THE COMMUNITY

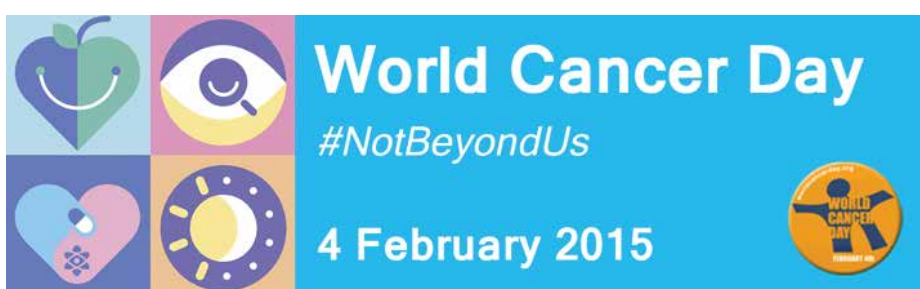
As part of CCRCB's commitment to reaching out to the local communities in Northern Ireland, Professor Mark Lawler, Chair in Translational Cancer Genomics, Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology, Queen's University Belfast, delivered two lectures and a Question and Answer (Q&A) Session in collaboration with the Pink Ladies/Pink Panthers Cancer Support Group in Derry. The first event took place in the Maldron Hotel as part of Male Cancer Awareness Month and Professor Lawler focussed on men's health issues, with a particular emphasis on cancer in men and also featured a Q&A Session. "We were delighted to welcome Professor Lawler

to Derry – both the presentation and the Q&A session threw up many interesting areas that were of interest and relevant to our members", said Maureen Collins (Chair of Cancer Support Group for World Cancer Day event).

The second event took place in the Brandywell community with a special lecture as part of World Cancer Day 2015 activities in Derry. In his presentation "Prevent the preventable, Detect the Detectable, Treat the Treatable", Professor Lawler emphasised the need for strong anti-tobacco measures, including smoking bans in the workplace and the need to introduce other anti-

tobacco legislation including plain packaging. He also highlighted the role of other lifestyle interventions including diet and exercise and the link between obesity and cancer.

Professor Lawler outlined how cancer awareness and early diagnosis campaigns are key to informing the public on the need to be vigilant. "Early diagnosis leads to better outcomes as the cancer can be treated at an earlier less aggressive stage," he said. He then went on to highlight the importance of research, and how researchers in CCRCB are contributing to the development of new diagnostic tests and new therapies that can improve outcomes for cancer patients, both locally and globally. "It is vital that we break down the potential barriers between scientists, doctors and the public and these type of events are a crucial way in which we can get important messages across in terms of early diagnosis, equal access to healthcare and the value of research," said Maeve McLaughlin, MLA for Foyle and Chair of the Health Committee at Stormont.



NI BIOBANK OPEN EVENING



Members of the NI Cancer Research Consumer Forum who attended the Open Evening

As part of the Northern Ireland Biobank's strategy for personal and public involvement (PPI) in biobanking, members of the NI Cancer Research Consumer Forum were invited to an open evening on Thursday 27 February 2015 to launch the setting up of a Northern Ireland Biobank PPI Focus Group.

Dr Jackie James, Director of the NIB talked about the biobank's progress to date and plans for raising awareness of biobanking across Northern Ireland. Guest speaker Professor Manuel Salto-Tellez discussed the key role of biobanking in the success of local cancer research programmes and the CCRCB

molecular pathology programme in particular. The NICRCF members had a tour of the laboratory and biobank storage facility and there was plenty of opportunity for questions. The NIB is very grateful to the members of the NICRCF for their very positive feedback.

PRIZES AND MEASURES OF ESTEEM

In January 2015 Dr Kerry Hughes and Dr Rich Williams were awarded £3,400 from the Royal Society of Chemistry's Outreach fund to carry out chemistry outreach activities for schools and events with the centre.

QUEEN'S VICE CHANCELLOR RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS ACCOLADE



Professor Patrick Johnston is presented with his Honorary Fellowship

Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University Belfast, Professor Patrick Johnston, has been awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI).

Founded in 1784, the RCSI is a world renowned medical institution, providing extensive education and training in the healthcare professions for students in Ireland. The award, the highest distinction the RCSI bestows, was presented to Professor Johnston in recognition of his contribution to cancer research. A globally-recognised cancer specialist over the last 20 years, Professor Johnston, from Derry, has also led the development of a world-leading Institute of Health Sciences at Queen's University. His research has resulted in a number of prestigious landmark publications, over 20 patents and almost £100 million in grants being secured from research and philanthropic bodies.

Professor Johnston was presented with the award by RCSI President, Declan J Magee, at a conferring ceremony at RCSI in Dublin, on 7 February 2015. Commenting on the distinguished accolade, Professor Johnston said: "I am delighted to have received an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. It is a privilege to have received this honour and to have had my contribution to cancer research recognised in this way."

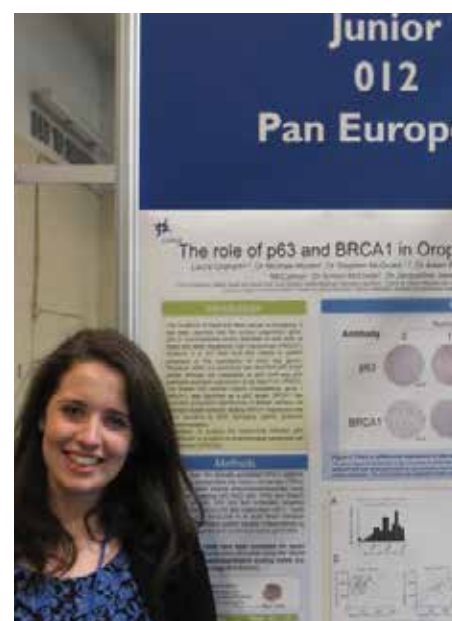
STUDENT WINS PRESTIGIOUS UNDERGRADUATE AWARD

Laura Graham, a fourth year dental student at QUB, has won First Prize in the Junior Researcher section of the Hatton Awards at the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) meeting. The Hatton Award is the most prestigious student research prize in dentistry and is recognition of the quality of the research and the knowledge of the student presenter. The meeting took place from 10-14 March in the Hynes Conference Centre in central Boston, Massachusetts with almost seven thousand delegates. Laura was representing the Irish Division of the IADR having been selected at a regional event in November 2014 and she was competing against 16 other competitors selected from their home divisions across the globe.

Her presentation was entitled "The role of p63 and BRCA1 in Oropharyngeal Cancer" and was based on research she

carried out within the Northern Ireland Molecular Pathology Laboratory in the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB) under the supervision of Dr Jacqueline James, Dr Simon McDade and Dr Stephen McQuaid. Laura's presentation was assessed by a panel of international judges and she competed against worldwide opposition for this major award.

Laura's research provided a novel description of BRCA1 in Oropharyngeal cancer and provided further insight into the role of p63 within this disease. A subgroup of HPV negative patients with improved survival were identified based on p63 and BRCA1 expression, this has important clinical and therapeutic implications. It has also prompted further research into HPV negative tumours with the worst overall survival.



Laura Graham pictured with her winning poster

QUEEN'S PROFESSOR DELIVERS OPENING ADDRESS AT CANCER POLICY AND ECONOMICS CONFERENCE IN GREECE

Professor Mark Lawler, Chair in Translational Cancer Genomics, Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology Queen's University Belfast, delivered the opening address at the recent *Cancer Policy and Economics Conference: Ensuring Quality and Equality of Treatment* in Athens. In his presentation entitled *"Healthcare is a right; not a luxury: Recognising and Addressing cancer inequalities in Europe"*, Professor Lawler emphasised the significant disparities that exist at European level, and how these disparities must be addressed in order to achieve better outcomes for European cancer patients.

One year on from the launch of the European Cancer Patient's Bill of Rights in which QUB played a leadership role, Professor Lawler highlighted some of the actions and activities that have occurred in the last twelve months. A number of pan European and National Cancer Organisations (including Cancer Focus Northern Ireland) have adopted the Bill of Rights and are using it to address specific inequalities in their own country/region. "It is heartening that the Bill of Rights is no longer just a piece of paper", said Professor Lawler, "but a vibrant document that is acting as a catalyst for change, empowering cancer patients to act to reverse the inequalities that they face every day of their lives."

Professor Lawler highlighted the importance of innovation and research in addressing cancer disparities in Europe and how improved cancer care can not only lead to better outcomes, but also how it can contribute to economic and social benefit for European citizens and society. "The real cost of cancer needs to be emphasised, rather than simply focusing on the costs of cancer medicine," said Professor Lawler. "Achieving improved outcomes, better quality of life and returning more patients to normal or near normal living through a research and innovation agenda can really benefit our society as a whole," he added.



Professor Mark Lawler speaking at the conference

CCRCB GOES GREEN TO HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

Queen's is one of over 50 Universities in the UK taking part in the Green Impact Scheme. Green Impact is an environmental accreditation and awards scheme run by the National Union of Students.

The Centre has recently signed up to the University's green impact scheme and is led by an enthusiastic team – Abdullah Alvi, Sharon Dunwoody, Marc-Aurel Fuchs, Kerry Hughes, Linda Jordan and Maria Rea. The scheme aims to

empower individuals and departments to reduce their environmental impact by encouraging, rewarding and celebrating practical environmental improvements (www.qub.ac.uk/carbon).

Everyone in CCRCB has already contributed to a reduction in our carbon footprint, with very little effort a reduction of 14.5% in the last year alone. Just a few simple actions can go a long way to help reduce our collective environmental impact and improve our

sustainability. Switching off those lights and recycling paper really does make a difference. Recycling at home is now second nature, so we are just expanding that thinking to the work place.

The Green Impact Team have already issued their first Green Impact newsletter and these will be circulated at regular intervals throughout the year. The Green Impact team also welcome your ideas – please contact a member of the team to find out how you can get involved.

RECENT GRANTS AWARDED

Investigator(s)	Sponsor	Title	Amount	Start Date	End Date
Campbell, Charles	Astra Zeneca	CASE MRC Studentship	£17,500	01/10/14	30/09/18
Coyle, Vicky McMullan, Ronan McAuley, Danny Clarke, Mike Wilson, Richard	NIHR	Early switch to oral antibiotic therapy in patients with low risk neutropenic sepsis (The EASI-SWITCH Trial)	£972,319	01/08/15	30/04/19
Irvine, Sandra	Leukaemia & Lymphoma NI	Consumables	£10,000	01/04/15	31/03/17
Irvine, Sandra	Leukaemia & Lymphoma NI	Travel Grant	£2,000	01/04/15	31/03/17
Lawler, Mark Johnston, Patrick Kennedy, Richard Wilson, Richard Salto-Tellez, Manuel	Medical Research Council / Cancer Research UK (MRC-CRUK)	Stratification in COLOrectal cancer: from biology to Treatment prediction (S-CORT)	£5,000,000	01/04/15	31/03/20
Mills, Ken	Leukaemia & Lymphoma NI	Summer Studentships	£6,000	01/07/15	31/08/15
Mullan, Paul McDade, Simon Williams, Rich	Breast Cancer Campaign	Exploiting the TBX2 Repression of CST6 as a Novel Treatment Strategy for Poor Prognosis Breast Cancers	£193,552	01/03/15	28/02/18
O'Brien, Niamh McCloskey, Karen	BHSCT Charitable Funds	Investigating KCNK Proteins as Potential Novel Biomarkers and Therapeutic Targets in Ovarian Cancer	£44,748	01/02/15	31/01/16
Prise, Kevin	National Physics Laboratory	PhD Studentship (50%)	£30,000	01/10/14	30/09/17
Turkington, Richard	HSC R&D	Clinical Research Fellowship – Dr Rosie Douglas	£198,716	01/08/15	31/07/18
Williamson, Kate	Randox	Haematuria Biomarker Study	£120,000	01/01/15	31/12/15

PHOTO GALLERY



Professor Ken Mills recently launched Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI's '99 Red Balloons' campaign at Queen's University Belfast. Every day 3 people in Northern Ireland are diagnosed with a blood cancer. The aim of the campaign is to raise awareness of our vital research into blood cancers such as leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma. Where do you think our next NI landmark should be?

For more information please go to:
www.LeukaemiaAndLymphomaNI.org



Two pupils of Ballyholme Primary School, Kiera Williams and Cara Lamour, turned 11 in February and decided to have a joint birthday party with a bit of a difference. On Sunday 22 February friends gathered to celebrate the girls' birthdays with a 'horrible histories' themed party (complete with costumes!). But in lieu of gifts, Keira and Cara asked their friends for donations to Cancer Research UK. They raised £140 on the day to help fund research at the CCRCB. Thanks Keira and Cara!



Mr Wilfred Keys raised £3,250 for CCRCB over the festive season by making and selling his 'rustic reindeer.' This is the second year that Wilfred has raised funds for CCRCB, having raised £1,720 in December 2013.



Pictured is the 'End of November Gala' event held in Horatio Todds, where Dr Jessica Neissen won the award for 'Miss November'



Visit Belfast, in partnership with Belfast Waterfront Conference and Exhibition Centre and Tourism Ireland, recently hosted a European Launch event at the office of the Northern Ireland Executive in Brussels.

Local Belfast Ambassador, Professor Mark Lawler (CCRCB) is pictured with Victoria Beatty (Titanic Belfast), Catriona Lavery (Hastings Hotels) and Sheena Davidson (Belfast Waterfront), who all attended this event to promote Belfast as a destination for European conferences and events.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- AGNEW, C.E., IRVINE, D.M. and McGARRY, C.K. (2014) Correlation of phantom-based and log file patient-specific QA with complexity scores for VMAT, *J Appl Clin Med Phys.*, 15(6):4994.
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NEW APPOINTMENTS

Welcome to the following new staff who have recently joined the Centre:

Academic Staff:

Dr Jaine Blayne
Dr Darragh McArt
Dr Ian Mills

Research Staff:

Dr Raymond King
Dr Wendy Moore
Dr Sarah Osman
Dr Leanne Stevenson

Technical Staff:

Dr Elaine Craig
Mrs Kym Griffin

Clerical Staff:

Miss Jill Loughlin
Mr Chris McAfee

Visiting Researchers:

Miss Laie Abello
Mr Conal Askin
Ms Sara Dobi
Miss Leanne Fegan
Dr Stephanie Feuten-Burton
Miss Carole Lavenant
Mrs Sara McQuillan
Mr Hugo Moreira
Miss Alanna Morgan
Dr Brendan Pang
Mr Mark Wappett
Dr Peter Wilson

EVENTS

All Ireland Cancer Consortium Conference

10 – 13 May 2015

Riddel Hall, Queen's University Belfast

For further information and registration please refer to:
<http://www.qub.ac.uk/AICC2015>

ASCO 2015 Annual Meeting

29 May – 2 June 2015

McCormick Place
Chicago, Illinois

For further information and registration please refer to:
<http://am.asco.org/>

Cancer Research UK International Symposium on Oesophageal Cancer

6 - 7 June 2015

Oxford CRUK Centre

For further information and registration please refer to:
<http://www.bit.ly/OesoSymposium>

NCIN Cancer Outcomes Conference

8 – 10 June 2015

Europa Hotel, Belfast

For further information and registration please refer to:
<http://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/NCIN2015/>

CCRCB EVENTS

CCRCB Open Day

9 May 2015, 11.00am – 3.00pm

For further information and registration please refer to:

<http://go.qub.ac.uk/Hncbc>

CRUK Centre Lecture

11 June 2015

Professor Nick Lemoine
Barts Cancer Institute

Comments on the CCRCB Bulletin or suggestions for future editions should be forwarded to katie.stewart@qub.ac.uk