

Life Sciences Newsletter

Imperial College London

January 2016

[DoLS Committees and Initiatives](#)

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WELCOME TO ALL NEW STAFF

ACADEMIC & RESEARCH

Research Assistants: **Rachael Barry** (Gad Frankel), **Giuliana Fusco** (Alfonso De Simone).

Research Associates: **Ana Batista Gomes** (George Christophides); **Thomas Guillerme** (Martin Brazeau); **Sadia Kanvil** (Colin Turnbull); **Constandina Pospori** (Cristina Lo Celso).

PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL SERVICES, AND LEARNING & TEACHING FAMILIES

Catalina Estrada Montes - Ecological Analyst and Facility Manager (Silwood Park); **Jessica Rowley** - Flow Cytometry Specialist.

Research Technicians: **Alima Qureshi** (Lauren Cator).

PRIZES AND AWARDS

Many Congratulations to **Maggie Dallman**, who received an OBE for her services to bioscience!

APPOINTMENTS

Alain Filloux was elected to the European Academy of Microbiology (EAM) & appointed on the MRC Infection and Immunity Board.

RESEARCH GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Thomas Meier received a Wellcome Trust Investigator Award (1,57M). The Award will allow Thomas to set up his lab at the Imperial College London, transfer his team from the Max-Planck Institute of Biophysics Frankfurt and continue his research about the structural and functional investigations of rotary ATPases in the next five years.

BBSRC Strategic Longer and Larger (sLoLa) grant worth £5.7M to design and improve vaccines for poultry (5 years funding 2016-2021); **Anne Dell** and **Stuart Haslam** are co-PIs. The grant is led by Professor Brendan Wren at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and other collaborators are at the University of Cambridge, University of Exeter, The Roslin Institute, the John Innes Centre and the Defence Science & Technology Laboratory.

Patrik Jones reports that the FET-OPEN project FUTUREAGRICULTURE coordinated by Arren-Bar Even at Max-Planck Golm was funded, €955K. The success rate was <1.7% (11 out of 670 applications were funded).

[USEFUL POLICIES & PROCEDURES & INFO](#)

[Working at Imperial](#) – family friendly benefits, equality and diversity, financial benefits and more...

[Funding Opportunities for Women](#)

[Equality & Diversity Policies](#)

[Staff Networks](#)

[Women @ Imperial](#)

[Learning & Development Centre](#)

[Disability Support for staff](#)

TALKS

Robert Weinzierl gave an invited talk delivered on January 7th, 2016 at the IAS Focused Program on "[Mechanisms of Transcription and its Regulation](#)" at The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST).

PUBLICATIONS

Kudelka MR, **Antonopoulos A**, Wang Y, Duong DM, Song X, Seyfried NT, **Dell A**, **Haslam SM**, Cummings RD, Ju T. *Cellular O-Glycome Reporter/Amplification to explore O-glycans of living cells*. Nat Methods. 2016 Jan;13(1):81-6.

Larrouy-Maumus G, **Clements A**, **Filloux A**, McCarthy RR, Mostowy S. [Direct detection of lipid A on intact Gram-negative bacteria by MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry](#). J Microbiol Methods. 2016 Jan;120:68-71. doi: 10.1016/j.mimet.2015.12.004. Epub 2015 Dec 3.

Maron, Martine, Gordon, Ascelin, Mackey, Brendan G., **Possingham, Hugh P.** and Watson, James E. M. (2015) [Conservation: stop misuse of biodiversity offsets](#). Nature, 523 7561: 401-403. doi:10.1038/523401a

Baumstark, R., Hänzelmann, S., Tsuru, S., Schaerli, Y., Francesconi, M., Mancuso, F.M., Castelo, R. & **Isalan M.** The propagation of perturbations in rewired bacterial gene networks. *Nature Communications* **6**, 10105 (2015).

Zuccala, E. S., T. J. Satchwell, F. Angrisano, Y. H. Tan, M. C. Wilson, K. J. Heesom and **J. Baum.** (2016) Quantitative phospho-proteomics reveals the Plasmodium merozoite triggers pre-invasion host kinase modification of the red cell cytoskeleton. Scientific Reports. In press. December 2015.

Stephen Curry's group reported the first molecular dissection of an unusual protein-mediated mechanism of protein-mediated translation initiation: Leen EN, Sorgeloos F, Correia S, Chaudhry Y, Cannac F, Pastore C, et al. (2016) [A Conserved Interaction between a C-Terminal Motif in Norovirus VPg and the HEAT-1 Domain of eIF4G Is Essential for Translation Initiation](#). PLoS Pathog 12(1): e1005379. doi:10.1371/journal.ppat.1005379. The paper came out in early January but had already been uploaded as a preprint in August of last year. The reason's for doing so were outlined in an article by Stephen in [a recent issue of The Biologist](#).

Willing, S. E., Richards, E. J., Sempere, L., Dale, A. G., Cutting, S. M., & Fairweather, N. F. (2015). Increased toxin expression in a Clostridium difficile mfd mutant. BMC microbiology, 15(1), 1.

Andrew Hammond, Roberto Galizi, Kyros Kyrou, Alekos Simoni, Carla Siniscalchi, Dimitris Katsanos, Matthew Gribble, Dean Baker, Eric Marois, Steven Russell, Austin Burt, Nikolai Windbichler, Andrea Crisanti & Tony Nolan [A CRISPR-Cas9 gene drive system targeting female reproduction in the malaria mosquito vector Anopheles gambiae](#), *Nature Biotechnology* 34, 78–83 (2016) doi:10.1038/nbt.343

POSTDOC NEWS

[DoLS Postdoc Committee](#) met on 11 Jan. Stay tuned and get involved to help your colleagues arrange personal & professional development opportunities for our Postdocs and Early Career Research Fellows.

Save the date in your diaries for Postdocs & Early Career Development Fellows' career development event on **16 March between 11 – 1.30 pm** - exact details and timings to be confirmed.

ATHENA SWAN

Wish to have an informal confidential chat about maternity/paternity/shared parental leave & support available at College & the Department and want to talk to someone in our department who has recent experience? No problem!

Contact one of DoLS Champions – see their blurb's below:

[Giorgio Gilestro – Paternity Leave & support](#)

[Doryen Bubeck – Maternity Leave & support](#)

[Richard Bowman – Shared Parental Leave & Support](#)

College's [Family Friendly benefits](#) webpage provides wide range of information for parents/parents-to-be on wide range of issues.

MEDIA/OUTREACH ACTIVITIES/EVENTS BEING HOSTED

Maggie Dallman was quoted in an article [Eureka: Scottish education company wins £3.5m investment from Imperial College London](#) by Herald Scotland, 19 Jan 16

Hugh Possingham *et al* paper [Protected areas and global conservation of migratory birds](#), published in Science 4 Dec 2015, received a wide coverage in the media, including [BBC](#), [FoxNews \(Science\)](#), [BirdLife International](#), [ABC Science](#), [Science Daily](#), [LA Times](#).

An outreach event at the Science Museum Lates [Tim Peake launch](#) Dec. 15 which was very popular. The theme was 'Space Algae' and included several of **Patrik Jones' group** members (**Danielle, Phoebe, Marine and Wen**) and also **Dennis Nuernberg** (Bill Rutherford) and **Marin Sawa** (Peter Nixon).

