

## Annual General Meeting 2012

The Academy's AGM and Fellows reception will take place on Thursday 22 November 2012. The event also includes the admission to the Academy of the Honorary Fellows – Professor François Barré-Sinoussi, Lord Rees of Ludlow, Baroness Mary Warnock and Sir Andrew Witty, plus the Jean Shanks Lecture.

We are delighted that Professor Adrian Bird CBE FRS FRSE FMedSci, Buchanan Professor of Genetics, Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology, School of Biological Sciences, University of Edinburgh, has accepted our invitation to give this year's Jean Shanks Lecture, which will be titled '*Genetics, epigenetics and Rett syndrome*'.

In an alteration to the usual schedule, this year's Fellows meeting will be followed by a drinks reception at the Academy building (to which all Fellows are invited). Invitations, including a full programme for the day, will be sent to Fellows shortly. There will be no charge for the reception but Fellows are asked to indicate their attendance (for all parts of the day) on the booking form which they will receive with the invitation.

Registration for the AGM opens at 14.30. The meeting will start at 15.00 and will be followed by the admission of Honorary Fellows. The Jean Shanks Lecture takes place at 17.30 after a short refreshments break. These events will take place at The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), 66 Portland Place, W1. The drinks reception will follow from 19:00 at the Academy headquarters at 41 Portland Place, W1.



For further information contact [alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk)

## Council elections – deadline for nominations

The 2012 Council elections are underway and nominations for new Council members must be received by Monday 1st October. We depend on the Fellowship for nominations to Council that reflect the Academy's broad mix of basic, clinical and population based medical sciences, and which provide an appropriate spread of geographical location, age and gender.

This year the ballot will take place on 6 November 2012. Fellows will receive details of this year's nominees and ballot papers, by post, towards the middle of October. Please look out for your voting forms.

**The deadline for nominations is Monday 1 October 2012**



For further information contact [alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk)

## Anti-bribery policy

The Bribery Act 2010 came into effect in July 2011 and created a new offence which can be committed by organisations that fail to prevent persons associated with them from bribing another person on their behalf. An organisation that can prove it has adequate procedures in place to deal with the risk of bribery taking place will have a defence. The Academy's Officers consider the risk of bribery to be low and have produced a bribery policy, to be circulated to all Fellows. [View the full policy.](#)



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## Fellows Directory 2012 edition

The 2012 edition of the Fellows Directory is currently in preparation. Thank you to all Fellows who have updated their entries over the course of the summer. This year the Academy will pilot a new scheme for the distribution of the Directory. Fellows will be able to order their copy online with copies printed to order. We hope that this will cut down on superfluous printing costs. Further details of how to request a copy of the Directory will be distributed by e-mail once the new version is ready.

[A directory of Fellows is also available online](#) (this does not include contact details)



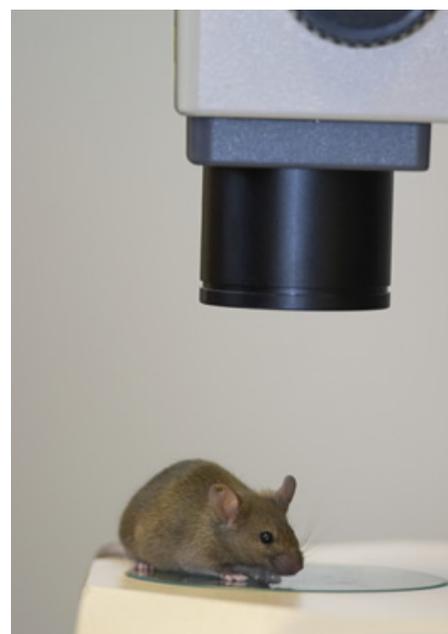
For further information contact  
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## Revisions to the UK law on animals in research

The UK law governing the use of animals in scientific research is being revised this autumn to ensure its consistency with the European Directive 2010/63/EU, which came into force in November 2010. It must be transposed nationally by November 2012, with the majority of its provisions put in place in the UK from January 2013. The Academy has been active throughout this process to ensure that the revisions will protect animal welfare and enable excellent pre-clinical science to continue to flourish in the UK.

The transposition of the Directive includes the development of guidelines for the new National Committee for the use of animals in scientific research. We have highlighted recommendations in the [Academy's report on Animals containing human material](#) that proposed that the new Committee be: multidisciplinary; transparent; open to public scrutiny; and engage actively with the public, the scientific community and with other regulators to maintain a broad coordinated framework for regulating research.

We recently co-hosted a Parliamentary event with other members of the Bioscience Coalition, which represents the perspectives of academia, industry, small and medium sized enterprises, charities and other research funders, as well as patient and medical groups, to engage with Parliamentarians and encourage debate about the Directive. The draft legislation will be laid before Parliament shortly, with debates subsequently taking place in both Houses from late October.



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## Case studies needed for spending review

As part of the Academy's work around the next Government spending review we are contacting Fellows to seek case studies of the impact of research that have been prepared for the Research Excellence Framework (REF). We plan for these case studies to form part of the evidence the Academy will submit to Government to ensure continued public funding of research. Of particular interest are case studies that demonstrate:

- The economic and health value of public investment in research, ideally supported by quantitative economic evidence.



- How public investment in research encourages commercial and charitable investment in research.
- The importance of long-term, sustained public investment in research.
- Research advances that are on the cusp of translation into patient and public benefit.
- Examples linking fundamental research to economic and health benefits.
- The economic and health value of interdisciplinary research.
- How investment in research capital can provide economic and health benefits.

A series of posters illustrated the value of patient data and of research data to attendees. Parliamentarians received a short booklet describing the research shown in the posters and explaining how they can facilitate the use of data in research. The APPG MR also holds roundtables with Parliamentarians on issues such as the use of animals in research and provides briefings to support debates, particularly on the medical research aspects of legislation going through Parliament

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## Delivering the Life Sciences strategy

In December, the Government launched a [Strategy for UK Life Sciences](#) and an [Innovation strategy for the NHS](#). The Academy was consulted on the development of these two documents and is involved in a series of policy activities that seek to help realise the ambitions they set out, particularly around streamlining the regulation and governance of health research and linking academia, industry and the NHS. The Academy welcomed the increased funding for research areas such as stratified medicine and regenerative medicine in the Life Sciences' Strategy and has two policy initiatives aimed at maximising the value of this funding. On 10 and 11 October we are holding a [symposium to identify solutions to the ongoing regulatory, economic and infrastructure challenges posed by the implementation of stratified medicines](#). This symposium is chaired by Sir John Bell. On 30 October, we are co-hosting a workshop (in association with the ABPI, MHRA, MRC and ESRC) to address challenges in regulating cell-based regenerative medicine research. Professor Robin Ali FMedSci and Professor Fiona Watt FMedSci are leading the Academy's engagement in this workshop.

Following the Academy's report on [A new pathway for the regulation and governance of health research](#) (chaired by Sir Michael Rawlins), the Government introduced proposals for a [Health Research Authority](#) (HRA) to oversee the streamlining of health research. The Academy has been involved in the development of the new Authority and is currently preparing its response to the consultation about the clauses of the [Care and Support Bill](#) that will establish the HRA in primary legislation. We are also responding to the consultation on the future of the Human Tissue and Embryology Authority and the [Human Tissue Authority](#). Our work to influence the Clinical Trials Regulation is outlined in the article on [Influencing European policy](#). Finally, encouraging a more favourable environment for research in the NHS is crucial if the UK is to realise the health and wealth potential of its research base. The Academy has been working in partnership with the National Institute for Health Research and the NHS Confederation to hold a series of events for NHS R&D staff to reinforce the importance of research undertaken in the NHS. The President and other Fellows are representing the Academy at these events.



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## Policy internship scheme

Do you know a PhD student who is funded by the Medical Research Council with an interest in science policy? Applications are currently invited for the next round of our [MRC policy internship scheme](#), which allows PhD students to spend three months in the Academy's policy team.

During their time at the Academy, our policy interns have the opportunity to work on existing high level policy projects or to research new projects. They also have the opportunity to lead on a particular aspect of our policy work such as a consultation response. The scheme allows interns the opportunity to engage with Fellows, other senior researchers and policymakers. Feedback from our interns has been very positive. One intern said: 'Policy can be something of a black box to scientists so the most remarkable aspect of my internship experience was the opportunity to become familiar with the variety of people and organisations involved in shaping medical policy in the UK.'

Internships take place at the Academy's offices at 41 Portland Place, London. The scheme is open to students who will be in their third or fourth year of a PhD during the placement; or for the three months immediately following their fourth



For further information contact

year. Places are awarded through a competitive application process. Successful applicants will receive a three-month extension to their PhD stipend while based at the Academy. A travel grant is available on a case-by-case basis for students who normally live outside of London. Academy Fellows with eligible PhD students are encouraged to draw the scheme to their attention.

The deadline for applications from MRC funded students will be 31 October 2012 and interviews will be conducted on 20 November 2012. [Further details and an application form](#) are available on the Academy's website.

## Public health research roundtable

On 12 September the Academy hosted a high-level roundtable on public health research with Dr Tom Frieden, Director of the US Centers of Disease Control (CDC) at the Academy's offices at 41 Portland Place, London. The event was chaired by Professor David Heymann CBE FMedSci, Chair of the Health Protection Agency (HPA), and gathered together experts and those interested in public health from the UK and Europe. At this time of change in the UK public health system the roundtable offered an excellent opportunity to learn from Dr Frieden's wealth of experience as Director of the Centres for Disease Control in the USA, working for the World Health Organisation (WHO) in India, and as Health Commissioner for New York City.

A central theme of discussion was the need to build bridges between public health research, public health service delivery and clinical medicine. Challenges to this vision identified at the roundtable include the differing time scales over which these areas work, the proximity between public health and politics and insufficient focus on prevention. Much would also be gained through increased interaction between public health and other disciplines such as the social sciences, and with others in government, such as those involved in transport. Other issues raised included the importance of good data, engaging with the food and drink industry, engaging with the public and global health. A report of the roundtable will be available on the Academy's website shortly.



Dr Tom Frieden

For further information contact [laurie.smith@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:laurie.smith@acmedsci.ac.uk)

## Influencing European policy

Over recent months the Academy has been increasing its engagement with European policymakers following the European Commission's publication of proposals for a new European Clinical Trials Regulation in July and a new European Data Protection Regulation in January. Both these regulations could have an important impact on UK medical research and advocacy around these issues form a key part of the Academy's ongoing efforts to streamline research regulation.

To help inform the UK Government's negotiations with other Member States around the Clinical Trials Regulation the Academy and Wellcome Trust hosted a successful meeting in September that brought together clinical academics, funders and the Medicines and Health Care Regulatory Agency (MHRA). This event demonstrated the convening power of the Academy in bringing together parties from different communities to consider a matter of common interest. The Academy is planning to formally establish a position on these proposals that we plan to use to engage with UK and European policymakers. If Fellows have views on the [proposals for the Clinical Trials Regulation](#) then please contact Laurie Smith at [laurie.smith@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:laurie.smith@acmedsci.ac.uk)

Following the publication of the Federation of European Academies of Medicine (FEAM) statement on the proposals for the European Data Protection Regulation earlier in the summer, the Academy is now working with our sister academies across Europe to engage with MEPs and their own national governments to help ensure the new European Data Protection Regulation facilitates research.

[View the FEAM statement on the proposals for the European Data Protection Regulation](#)



For further information contact [laurie.smith@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:laurie.smith@acmedsci.ac.uk)

## INSPIRE – engaging medical students with research

The Academy is delighted to launch INSPIRE, a new five year, UK-wide initiative to engage medical students with research.

INSPIRE provides an opportunity for the medical research community to work together to raise the profile of research amongst medical students. At the invitation of the Wellcome Trust, the Academy is leading this initiative, working in partnership with medical schools.

The central element of INSPIRE is a grant scheme. The 'INSPIRE lead' in each medical school, an academic appointed by the Dean/Head of the Medical School, will be able to apply for up to £10k over a two year period, to design and deliver a range of local activities to enthuse students with the benefits and potential of a research career. The format of INSPIRE is broadly based on the Clinical Research Champions scheme, developed by the Academy and the Medical Research Society, which showed that modest funds can be extremely effective in delivering activities of this type and in leveraging further funding. We are encouraging the INSPIRE leads to involve medical students throughout the design and implementation process.

INSPIRE is being officially launched on Wednesday 3 October at the Academy of Medical Sciences. The launch event will showcase case studies of projects that are already proving effective in inspiring students. We are very pleased that almost every medical school is sending their INSPIRE lead and a medical student to attend the launch. The event provides an invaluable chance for leads and students to discuss their initial ideas and learn more about the scheme. We would be very happy to put Academy Fellows in contact with their local lead.

Alongside the grant scheme, a 'special project' fund will provide additional funding to pilot particularly innovative activities or to enable catalysis of high impact projects. The Academy will also provide opportunities for leads to share learning and experiences through a regular INSPIRE newsletter and a series of sharing conferences. Where universities have a dental, as well as a medical school, it is intended that INSPIRE activities are also accessible to dental students.

INSPIRE is coordinated by the Academy of Medical Sciences, supported by The Wellcome Trust and delivered locally by medical schools.



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## New mentoring films online

Following the success of our film on the Academy's mentoring booklet, we commissioned two further films targeted at potential mentors and mentees. The films highlight the benefits and practicalities of joining the Academy's mentoring scheme and will offer valuable insight from Fellows and trainees who are taking part.

View film – [The mentees journey](#)

A fourth film to highlight the opportunities for institutions to apply the Academy's model for mentoring by creating local schemes is currently in production. This film will draw on the expertise of Fellows who have already started mentoring schemes for researchers in their institutions and will showcase the benefits of locally led career support.

Thank you to all Fellows who participated in the filming.

View film – [The mentors journey](#)



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## Spring meeting for Clinician Scientists in training

The Academy in collaboration with the Royal College of Physicians, is pleased to announce the annual Medical Research Society/AMS/Royal College of Physicians [Meeting for Clinician Scientists in Training](#). The meeting will be held on **27 February 2013, 9:00 – 18:00 at the Royal College of Physicians in London.**

This cross-specialty meeting is an excellent opportunity for senior academics to support and engage with clinical academic trainees at all stages – from Academic Clinical Fellows and PhD students through to those at the cusp of independent

research careers. In the past, senior academics have noted that they use the meeting to keep up to date on the world of clinical academic training in all specialty areas.

Fellows are warmly invited to attend and are encouraged to disseminate the invitation to clinical academic trainees in their institutions. **The deadline for abstract submissions for trainees is Friday 19 October 2012, 5pm.**



For further information contact [colby.benari@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:colby.benari@acmedsci.ac.uk)

## Academic Careers Committee

The Academy will be establishing a new Academic Careers Committee in early 2013 to support our work to nurture the next generation of medical researchers across the spectrum of clinical and biomedical research. The committee will provide support, advice and recommendations to the Academy's Council and Officers; undertake discrete projects; and consider where the Academy can add particular strategic value in this sphere.

This work will help to shape the agenda in careers policy and will provide an important foundation for the Academy's wider careers role, informing the design and development of our schemes and activities to ensure that they are fit for purpose.

A small scoping meeting will be held in October, chaired by Professor Martin Humphries FMedSci, to ensure that the committee is established as valuable and sustainable in the long term.



For further information contact [catherine.luckin@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:catherine.luckin@acmedsci.ac.uk)

## Fellows meeting and dinner – Glasgow

Professor Anna Dominiczak OBE FRSE FMedSci, Vice Principal, Regius Professor of Medicine, Head of College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences and Professor Anton Muscatelli FRSE, Principal and Vice Chancellor at the University of Glasgow are hosting a Fellows meeting at 15.30 on 12th November at the University of Glasgow.

The meeting will provide an opportunity for Fellows to get together to hear more about the Academy's work and to discuss the size and future shape of the Fellowship. We aim for a Fellowship that fully represents medical science irrespective of gender, age, ethnicity, discipline, geographic location or workplace and this meeting will provide the chance to identify new candidates that can help us to achieve our goals.

As well as the Fellows meeting there will be an opportunity to hear a talk 'Cytokines: The Janus Messengers' given by Professor Eddie Liew FRS FMedSci, Institute of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation, University of Glasgow at a discussion dinner.

We are most grateful to the University of Glasgow for hosting this event and thanks to their support there is no charge for attending this discussion dinner.

**Fellows wishing to attend must book a place via the Academy office.** If you would like to register to attend, please contact [alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk) who will reserve your place.



For further information contact [alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk)

## Fellows meeting and dinner – Liverpool

Professor Sue Wray FMedSci, School of Biomedical Sciences, and Professor Ian Greer FMedSci, Executive Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Liverpool are hosting a Fellows meeting at 15.30 on 4 December at the Victoria Gallery and Museum, University of Liverpool.

The meeting will provide an opportunity for Fellows to get together to hear more about the Academy's work, including a report on the Academy's Taskforce on Women in the Fellowship, which will be given by Professor Ros Smyth FMedSci.

We aim for a Fellowship that fully represents medical science irrespective of gender, age, ethnicity, discipline, geographic location or workplace and this meeting will provide the chance to identify new candidates that can help us achieve our goals.

Following the Fellows meeting there will be an opportunity to participate in a discussion dinner at which Professor Sue Wray FMedSci, School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Liverpool, will speak on 'The uterus: past, present and future' in conjunction with Professor Kay Tee Khaw CBE, FMedSci, Department of Public Health and Primary Care, University of Cambridge who will give a talk titled 'Is ageing modifiable?'.

If you would like to register to attend the Fellows meeting and/or dinner, please contact [alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk). Tickets for the dinner cost £45 and include a three-course meal and drinks.

Please note that the Academy will also be holding a mentoring outreach event in the earlier part of the day.

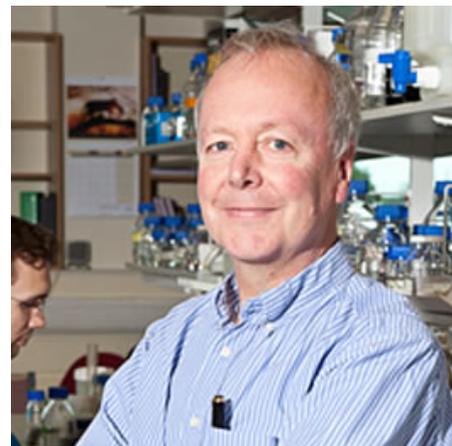


For further information contact [alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk)

## Jean Shanks lecture

The 2012 Jean Shanks Lecture will be given by Professor Adrian Bird CBE FRS FRSE FMedSci, Buchanan Professor of Genetics, Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology, School of Biological Sciences, University of Edinburgh. The title of the lecture will be 'Genetics, epigenetics and Rett syndrome'

The lecture will be held in the Jarvis Auditorium, Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place W1 at 5:30 pm on Thursday 22 November 2012. Tea will be available beforehand.



Professor Adrian Bird CBE FRS FRSE  
FMedSci

For further information contact  
[alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:alison.rojo@acmedsci.ac.uk)

## Sackler video – the science of ageing in 5 minutes

This year's Sackler lecture has been summarised into a fantastic 5 minute film featuring an interview with Professor Linda Partridge and a summary of her talk.

[You can view the summary film here.](#)

[Fellows can also view a film of the full 2012 Raymond and Beverly Sackler Distinguished Lecture in the Medical Sciences given by Professor Linda Partridge DBE FRS FRSE FMedSci here](#)



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## Summer at 41 Portland Place

With London playing host to the largest sports event in the world this summer there was no better time to launch our newly revitalised terrace, which now boasts a beautiful lawn. The terrace was a popular spot at this year's Admission Day Soiree, but we also hosted a number of bespoke events from product lunches to pre dinner drinks, corporate away days and candlelight soirees so we really put our shiny new BBQ to work.

With a constant supply Chef Will's canapéculiar creations watered down with jugs of Pimm's and the famous 41PP Caipirina our guests mingled amongst the roof tops of Marylebone long after the sun had set.

Having treated our terrace to a makeover we thought we should to treat the venue to a lick of paint too, so the summer also saw a complete external redecoration taking place. 41 Portland Place is now looking spick and span ready host to lots of cosy winter events.

[To book a winter meeting and view our fellows packages click here](#)



For further information contact [nikki.kelly-ayling@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:nikki.kelly-ayling@acmedsci.ac.uk)

## Current offers for Fellows

Our headquarters at 41 Portland Place is a perfect venue for Fellows to hold meetings, seminars and events, with both modern and period rooms that are able to accommodate anything from 4 to 80 people. So whether you're planning a small brain-storming meeting, a large scale conference or a discussion dinner, think of 41 Portland Place as your home away from home. To make booking simple and affordable we have developed two packages, which are available exclusively to Fellows of the Academy. With half day packages starting from £22.50 per person, and full days from £32.50 per person including room hire and the finest catering from Harbour and Jones, all you need to do is let us know date and the number of delegates and our experienced events team will do the rest.

Why not make an evening of it? We have created the perfect Fellows post meeting upgrade starting from £13.00 per person where you and your guests can relax with a glass of wine and a selection of gourmet nibbles. To really make the most of gathering your busy colleagues together why not join us for an evening of mouth watering cuisine, fine wine and first class service under sparkling candle light in one of our intimate dining rooms.

With fine dining packages starting from £45.00 per person including room hire, all you need to worry about is choosing between a fruity Merlot, or crisp Chablis.

[To view our fellows packages click here](#)



For further information contact [nikki.kelly-ayling@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:nikki.kelly-ayling@acmedsci.ac.uk)

## Christmas packages for Fellows

Fellows are encouraged to hold their Christmas events at 41 Portland Place.

Our events team understand the importance of creating an event to remember, which is why we specialise in bespoke events meaning no two Christmas parties are alike. They've created a range of Fellows Christmas packages that mean you can spoil your guests with a little festive luxury whatever your budget.

The grade II\* listed town house boasts the finest architecture and first class service in the heart of medical London making the venue the perfect choice for Fellows to enjoy your intimate Christmas dinner or celebrations. With 6 private entertaining spaces all individual in their own way, you are certain to find the perfect mix of period elegance and contemporary style at the exclusive home of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

Why not try our 'bubbles & baubles' canapés and drinks package from only £54.50 per person or our VIP Christmas banquet package from £83.50, including the hire of one of our decadent period rooms.

[To view our Fellows festive packages click here](#)



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