

Autumn 2017 Newsletter

Welcome to the BJA Research Forum Autumn newsletter! This is to update you on the work of the Anaesthesia Research Society and its transition into the BJA Research Forum and all of the benefits that this brings to you and the society. We have been busy over the Summer holiday giving the website a much needed over-haul and expect this to launch soon. We have also had a few changes on the council, detailed later. The most pressing update is to remind all members and colleagues about the upcoming Winter meeting. We would value any feedback on this newsletter and the work of your society.

BJA Research Forum Winter meeting 2017

The BJA Research Forum is an established part of the academic calendar, with positive feedback on the new meetings format reflected in improved attendance and high quality submissions and presentations.

This year's Winter meeting will be held on **Thu & Fri 23rd & 24th November 2017** at the College Court, University of Leicester. The meeting is hosted by local academics Professor Dave Lambert and Professor Jonathan Thompson, again attracting high profile keynote speakers. The Programme includes the usual mixture of selected abstracts submitted to the meeting and presented by the authors, the BJA Pain symposium and fascinating keynotes and lectures themed around recent scientific and academic projects at the University of Leicester, and key collaborators.



The BJA Pain Symposium commences with Sheffield-based Pain Consultant **Dr Rob Atcheson** discussing opioid tolerance and outlining strategies to manage these difficult clinical situations in his lecture entitled "Pain management when opioids fail." Rob works as a Consultant Anaesthetist at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and has developed a reputation as a leading Pain Consultant. He is an active researcher and has collaborated with many of the UK's leading pain researchers. His lecture promises to be both interesting and practically useful to academic and clinical staff alike.

Professor Christina Faull has been a Consultant in Palliative Medicine at LOROS, the Leicestershire and Rutland Hospice and the University Hospitals of Leicester since 2003. In 2013 she was awarded an honorary Chair at De Montfort University. Christina is a clinician, educator and researcher and is widely published. Her two books (Handbook of Palliative Care and Palliative Care) were both awarded the BMA medical book of the year. Christina will share her clinical and research insights into "Opioids in palliative care."



Next, we learn about the pharmacology of peptidergic systems with **Professor Girolamo Calo**, who is based in the University of Ferrara, Italy and hold an honorary post in Leicester. His lecture is entitled “Pain and the nociceptin system – translational challenges.” Since 1990 professor Calo has published more than 230 papers focused on peptide receptor pharmacology in particular in the fields of kinins, tachykinins, endothelins, opioids, nociceptin/orphanin FQ, urotensin II and, more recently, neuropeptide S. Professor Calo has worked with UK colleagues to author several patents on original ligands for GPCR and novel therapeutic indications for such ligands.



Dr Paul Wood is a Consultant Anaesthetist at the University Hospital Birmingham in which the Royal Centre for Defence Medicine is embedded. His position has allowed him to make contributions to the clinical and academic oversight of military casualties cared for in Birmingham. In particular he has represented UHB at the Defence Professors Peer Review and Military Pain Special Interest groups. His talk entitled “Battlefield to rehabilitation - pain in the military setting” is sure to be of interest to all ananesthetists.

The meeting also includes free paper sessions for abstract presentation and all successfully accepted and presented abstracts will be published in the British Journal of Anaesthesia. **Closing date for abstracts is 5pm, Friday October 13th 2017.** See www.ars.ac.uk. Abstracts are welcomed from clinicians, academic staff, students, trainees, Regional Trainee Research Groups and RAFT.

Various packages are available, including accommodation and evening meal.
See www.ars.ac.uk for further details.

BJA Research Forum Winter Scientific Meeting

23/24 November 2017,
College Court Conference Centre, Leicester

*The forum for presentation of
international research in
Anaesthesia & related specialities*

Keynote speakers & research
abstract presentations



**ANAESTHETIC
RESEARCH
SOCIETY**

Abstract deadline 13th October
Registration & programme
www.ars.ac.uk



The pain symposium is followed by a keynote lecture from **Professor Mark Sims** (left on the image below) and **Professor Tim Coats** (right). Professor Sims is a University of Leicester space scientist who leads a fascinating diagnostics project alongside Professor Coats, Professor of Emergency Medicine at the University and head of accident and emergency at the Leicester Royal Infirmary.



The pair work at the hi-tech £1million-plus non-invasive disease detection facility, developed by the University of Leicester, and used in Leicester Royal Infirmary's A&E department. The technology is designed to detect the “sight, smell and feel” of disease without the use of invasive probes, blood tests, or other time-consuming and uncomfortable procedures. Their research will be used on planned future space missions to Mars and include breath analyses, non-invasive assessment of oxygenation and adapts universe exploring imaging technology to hunt for signs of disease via the surface of the human body. Perhaps not all of their innovations can be used ‘back at work’ but their lecture entitled “New diagnostics – lessons from space” is sure to be fascinating.



Finally, no trip to Leicester could be complete without hearing a little about the city's most famous car park attendant! **Professor Turi King**, Professor of Public Engagement and Reader in Genetics and Archaeology at the University of Leicester offers the final keynote of the meeting as she outlines the process of identifying King Richard III. Professor King is leading 'The King's DNA: whole genome sequencing of Richard III' project, and also led the DNA analysis in the Richard III Identification project.

How to register

Non-members can join the BJA Research Forum / Anaesthetic Research Society at the meeting. Membership is £30 per year. Non-members who have paid the full £250 for this meeting will have their first year's membership fee waived, ensuring that you receive the same benefits as current members. There are reduced fees for full time undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Visit the BJA Research Forum website at www.ars.ac.uk to register and for more further information.

Details of abstract submission will be on the ARS website www.ars.ac.uk and detailed via the [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

What is the BJA Research Forum?

This forum is a partnership between the British Journal of Anaesthesia and the Anaesthetic Research Society and was announced in Spring 2015. The aim of the forum is to facilitate high quality scientific meetings with a focus on current research from Anaesthesia and its related disciplines. The Forum will run 2 meetings per year, one in London in the Spring and one in the Autumn, as detailed above. Meetings will have both themed and open abstract submissions and there is a commitment from University Academic departments, Journal editorial teams and key Academics to attend. The meetings will allow junior and senior presenters to discuss their work and collaborate and will build on international links to key individuals and societies.

The forum will have a membership, through the Anaesthetic Research Society. Members will be kept up to date with UK Research highlights and news and receive preferential rates for the national meetings. Updates will be provided by [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) and you can find us on [Twitter](#) by clicking the icon at the top of this page.

Join the BJA Research Forum

The BJA Research Forum is open to all! Membership is £30 per year and offers regular newsletters and updates on Research, Grants and opportunities within UK Anaesthetic Research. Members will receive preferential rates for all future meetings.

BJA Research Forum Committee

There have been a few changes on the committee recently as we said goodbye to past president Professor Phil Hopkins and long serving member Associate Professor Kyle Pattinson.

Our new president is **Professor Helen Galley**. Helen is Professor in the Academic Unit of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Institute of Medical Sciences, University of Aberdeen. Her research interests are inflammatory responses of

sepsis- particularly of oxidative stress in mitochondria and the use of antioxidants

targeted to mitochondria as therapeutic approaches. Helen has been and ARS member for 20 years and has held two terms of office as a member of the ARS Council, latterly as Grants Officer, before becoming President in 2016.

Helen is joined by **Mike Sury**, Consultant Paediatric Anaesthetist at Great Ormond Street Hospital and Honorary Senior Lecturer at the Portex Unit of Paediatric Anaesthesia Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health UCL. Mike leads anaesthesia research at GOSH and at the Portex Unit ICH. His interests include the development of fast acting sedation and anaesthesia techniques, level of consciousness monitoring and the assessment of new technology in infants.

Katie Warnaby is another new committee member. Kate is Senior Research Scientist, University of Oxford and has a wide range of research interests in neuroimaging of anaesthesia, sleep and pain. Kate's work majors on multi-modal neuroimaging techniques, such as combined electroencephalography (EEG) and functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), to observe the changes in the brain's activity and connectivity associated with altered states of consciousness, particularly general anaesthesia and sleep.

Manchester-based **Angella Bryan** is a Consultant Clinical Scientist in Anaesthesia at Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and holds an honorary post in The Division of Cardiovascular Sciences, University of Manchester. Angella has been a long-time supporter of the ARS and her varied research interests include all aspects of physiological measurement in the specialities of Anaesthesia and Critical Care including EMG, EEG, NIRS (Near Infrared Spectroscopy), Electrical Impedance Tomography (EIT), BIS monitoring for the measurement of depth of anaesthesia and sedation and clinical applications of metabolomics.

Details of the rest of the committee can be found on the website.

If you want to get involved in the ARS and the BJA Research Forum, please contact one of the council members via the links on the website or by social media.

We look forward to welcoming you to Leicester!