Wellcome Trust award for CII Director

Professor Paul Kaye, Director of the HYMS Centre for Immunology and Infection, has been given a prestigious Wellcome Trust Senior Investigator Award to continue his research on visceral leishmaniasis.

The awards are given by the Wellcome Trust to support exceptional, world-class researchers, who hold an established academic position.

Leishmaniasis is one of the major neglected diseases of poverty, affecting over one million people worldwide and the most severe form, visceral leishmaniasis or kala azar, is responsible for tens of thousands of deaths every year.

This parasitic disease is spread through the bite of a female sandfly, that itself has become infected by biting someone that is either sick from the disease or carrying the parasite without knowing it.

To develop tools that will help break the cycle of disease transmission, more needs to be known about how these parasites spread around the body, how they are acquired by sandflies and how variations in host immune response affects these processes.

Professor Kaye's research addresses these questions using new models of leishmaniasis transmission, state of the art techniques in cellular immunology and molecular pathology, and computational modeling. The research will provide new knowledge directly applicable to the fight towards eliminating this devastating disease.

The preliminary research supporting this new program of work was conducted in bespoke facilities for sandfly research established at York using funds awarded through a Research Pump Priming Award from the Centre for Chronic Diseases and Disorders.

Prize for Patrick

CONGRATULATIONS to Year 4 student Patrick Campbell who has won a poster prize at the Annual meeting of the European Society for Dermatological Research in Copenhagen for his research “Germline mutation in EGFR resulting in epithelial inflammation and metabolic abnormalities”.

Patrick is co-author on two papers which have been published as a result of this research.

ASPiH conference

YEAR 5 student Alan Gopal will give two presentations at the Association for Simulated Practice in Healthcare (ASPiH) conference this month and has also had a poster accepted for the event.

Top ten for HYMS

HYMS is named in the Times Higher Education supplement as among the top 10 best universities nationally this year for student satisfaction, slightly behind Brighton and Sussex Medical School, but ahead of both our parent institutions, the Universities of Hull and York.
## Research publications

**RECENT publications by HYMS staff:**

- **HYMS Senior Lecturer in Biomedical Sciences Dr Francisco Rivero** is co-author of a study, published in *Human Molecular Genetics*, which has broad implications for the prevention of hearing loss.

- AN article by Associate Dean (Research) **Professor Ian Chetter** comparing three types of treatment for varicose vein has been published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.


**Book of the month**

A **BOOK** by **HYMS Professor of Palliative Medicine Miriam Johnson** has been named Palliative Care Book of the month by the International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care (IAHPC), “*From Advanced Disease to Bereavement*” by Miriam Johnson, Karen Hogg and James Beattie provides a wealth of information about the supportive and palliative care of patients with heart failure.

**Keynote speakers**

**SENIOR lecturers Peter Bazira (Clinical Anatomy) and Gabrielle Finn (Medical Education)** have been invited to represent the Anatomical Society at the American Association of Anatomists. They will give keynote lectures at a symposium sponsored by the Anatomical Society which aims to showcase the best of anatomy pedagogy research within the UK. The symposium will be part of the Experimental Biology conference in Boston in April 2015.

**From lab to marketplace**

A **COMPANY, SimOmics**, co-founded by Senior Lecturer in Immunology Dr Mark Coles, has won its first major contract as part of a consortium led by the Centre for Immunology and Infection. The business is based on innovative computer modelling software which can help drug developers predict the effects of new drugs on autoimmune diseases.

### Medical imaging centre

A **new £6.8 million research centre** based across two **Yorkshire universities will aim to transform diagnosis and treatment of patients suffering from cancer, heart disease and musculo-skeletal diseases with the help of new medical imaging facilities to be created at Leeds Teaching Hospitals and the University of York.**

The funding from the Medical Research Council is part of a package worth more than **£230 million for universities across Britain announced by Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne.**

Researchers from the University of Leeds and the University of York, including HYMS, will work on a new imaging method which could see the signal in MRI scanners increase up to **100,000 fold. This will give medical professionals new insights into the workings of the human body in health and illness.** The new method also has the potential to make the development of new drugs more effective.

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