

Scottish Metabolomics

Network Newsletter



SCOTTISH
METABOLOMICS
NETWORK



SULSA
Scottish Universities Life Sciences Alliance



14th September 2016

- SMN Updates
- SMN annual meeting in Inverness
- MS core expansion at Edinburgh CRF

SMN Updates

Our last SMN PI meeting was held at the University of Glasgow on the 18th of March. We discussed the growth of the network (Prof. Ruth Andrew's grant success is an excellent case in point, see below), synthetic biology and metabolomics in Scotland, and Professor Phil Whitfield updated us on the progress of planning for the next SMN conference (more below).

I met with Merlijn van Rijswijk (Netherlands Metabolomics Centre / Chairman International Affiliates Task Group) at the Metabolomics Society Conference in Dublin. The society is keen on an affiliation model for regional metabolomics units and this is the model that the MPF, RFMF etc are following. Merlijn asked for 3 things before we joined: a semi-formal structure (chair, secretary and treasurer), clearly defined website, and an affiliation agreement.

- Chairman and Metabolomics Society Contact: Dr Karl Burgess (Head of Metabolomics, Glasgow Polyomics, University of Glasgow)
- Treasurer: Professor Ruth Andrew (Chair of Pharmaceutical Endocrinology, Queen's Medical Research Institute, University of Edinburgh)
- Secretary: Dr Andy Finch (Chancellor's Fellow, Edinburgh Cancer Research Centre, University of Edinburgh)

A new website, with our own URL, should be up by the end of the week, and we are discussing the affiliation agreement with the Metabolomics Society.

Congratulations to Professor Mike Barrett on his recent appointment as the new SULSA director.

If you have anything you want to add to the next edition of the newsletter please e-mail Naomi.rankin@glasgow.ac.uk.

SMN Annual Meeting: REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

The Scottish Metabolomics Network is hosting its annual meeting on **16th and 17th November 2016**. The meeting is being organised by the University of the Highlands and Islands and will be held at the Centre for Health Science in Inverness. The meeting will bring together analytical chemists, bioinformaticians and biologists to discuss advances and challenges in metabolomic analyses and their applications across a wide range of disciplines. The meeting will also provide an opportunity for instrument manufacturers to highlight cutting-edge technological innovations. For further details including the meeting programme and registration please contact: Lipidomics@uhi.ac.uk



MS core expansion at Edinburgh CRF

The MS Core in the Edinburgh Clinical Research Facility has been expanding rapidly over the last six months, with substantial investment from the Wellcome Trust. January saw installation of a QTrap 6500+ allowing superior low levels quantitation and opening up improved measurement of aldosterone and estrogens in research samples. The system is also equipped with Nanomate® technology for surface sampling. A Multi-user equipment award to Ruth Andrew and colleagues in June has allowed investment in mass spectrometry imaging. The new instrument will include ion mobility separation which they hope to use to separate isomeric small molecules. Particular applications are separation of inert and active steroid isomers from tissues surfaces.

