

BSMM News

December 2009



Seasons greetings

The last newsletter for the year contains some important information about the Annual Meeting and reminders that there are funds available to attend meetings using the travel grant scheme. It was with sadness that the Society heard of the passing of Dr Mary English who was a major figure in mycology in the UK. And finally, it wouldn't be Christmas without a festive cartoon from Geoff Gadd!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all BSMM members.

Sue Howell

Contents

The President's Column.....	1
BSMM Travel grant reports.....	2
BSMM Travel Grant Applications.....	3
Glyn Evans Awards.....	3
Obituary, Dr Mary English.....	3
BSMM Annual Meeting, Exeter 2010.....	5
Nominations for Treasurer.....	6
Life & Honorary Membership.....	6
Funding & Studentships.....	6
Forthcoming meetings.....	8
Items for the next Newsletter.....	9
BSMM Membership.....	9
BSMM 45th AGM minutes 2009.....	9

The President's Column

As our thoughts turn to Christmas, the end of the year and the beginning of a new one, I expect that most of you will not be contemplating your bonuses or considering your non-dom status (unless you are one of our overseas members with more valid reasons for living elsewhere!). But spare a thought for the poor bankers – their job must be very tedious, they earn so much money that they have to spend most of their time working out how to avoid paying tax on it, everybody hates them and now they are constantly being compared with Premiership footballers – things just go from bad to worse.

On the other hand, if you are a member of the BSMM, you have a life. You belong to a community of like-minded individuals who generally support each other and are not well known for their over-assertiveness. The

Society increasingly helps the more junior and less well-funded members to attend conferences, organises excellent scientific meetings and even provides great entertainment, like the annual sing-song and this newsletter. I think that there is a lot of affection for the values of this organisation and we should be careful to preserve the best bits.

However, in the last newsletter I mentioned the idea of conducting a survey of the members to try to ensure that the Executive Committee steer the Society in the general direction that the majority of you want. This has undergone a fair bit of discussion and the final version of a questionnaire will be winging its way to you in the New Year. We can then have a full and frank discussion of the outcome at the AGM in Exeter.

You will see from this newsletter that the BSMM has had another good year. Members have been involved in many international meetings, either as speakers or as attendees and the reports from those successfully applying for BSMM travel awards show that they are benefiting from this support (and the emphasis on the hospitality and entertainment aspects is fully in keeping with the spirit of the Society!). Please ensure that colleagues are aware of these awards and bear them in mind when considering attendance at conferences, and remember that the Glyn Evans Award may be suitable for those staff needing to spend time in other departments, learning new techniques. Details of all of these follow in this newsletter.

Amongst the meetings I have had the pleasure of attending this year, there have been several in honour of Professor Frank Odds. I am pleased to say that Frank is taking a more leisurely approach to withdrawing from the public arena than we first thought and will be speaking at the Annual Meeting in Exeter. So you will get the chance to wish him well for his retirement. Almost as importantly, Frank will be playing the piano for us again. However, Frank's departure raises the issue of a musical vacancy which will take some filling. I am sure that there must be a talented pianist out there who could take this on. Just remember, this is the passport to a long and glittering career in mycology – just look at Frank's! Please would anyone who feels able to master the BSMM songbook get in touch with me or one of the Executive Committee, so that we can keep this long tradition going.

In the meantime, at this other time of the year for unaccustomed singing and universal enjoyment, I send



you all seasons greetings and best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.

Chris Kibbler

BSMM Travel Grant Report

24th International Conference on Yeast Genetics and Molecular Biology.

The meeting took place in Manchester between the 19th and 24th of July this year. I am grateful to the BSMM for awarding me a travel grant that enabled me to attend this meeting and to present data from my PhD project to the international yeast community in the form of a poster.

The meeting was quite intense and comprised talks on a wide variety of topics ranging from chromatin and genome stability over cell cycle, protein trafficking and systems biology to a session on yeasts as pathogens.

The latter was of particular interest to me as the focus of my research is the pathogenic fungus *Candida albicans*.

There were workshop sessions on different topics including signal transduction, control of gene expression and yeast as a model for disease. I was particularly interested in the talks by Francesc Posas, who explained the complex role of the Hog1 kinase in stress adaptation; and by Susan Lindquist, who was illuminating a role for the conserved chaperone protein Hsp90 in evolutionary change and in antifungal resistance mechanisms. A number of talks were also dealing with yeast as a model for aging, where telomere length and histone acetylation were of particular significance.

The conference dinner was held at Manchester United Football Club in Old Trafford. This included a tour through the museum and actually sitting in the stands of the stadium to have the conference picture taken. Even after a three course dinner nobody was too tired to dance to some excellent live music.

All in all this was a well organised meeting starring high-profile speakers from all over the world and an interesting mix of subject areas. I have seen a lot of exciting and thought-stimulating talks and will take away some ideas for my own research. The next YGMB meeting will take place in Poland in July 2011 - I can only recommend attending.

Kerstin Nather

Woods Hole Molecular Mycology Course, August 2009

The two and a half week course is held at the Marine Biological Laboratories (MBL) in Woods Hole MA and is run by Prof. A. P. Mitchell and Prof. J. Edwards. This

prestigious course has been running for 13 years and aims to provide expertise in pathogenic fungi. This year the course was formed from 18 students (grad students, postdocs and PI's) and 5 teaching assistants. Structurally the course offers a selection of carefully designed practical sessions, to get "hands-on" experience with the three main fungal pathogens: *Candida albicans*, *Cryptococcus neoformans* and *Aspergillus fumigatus* and days are packed with excellent technical sessions and research seminars. Speakers at this year's course included Prof. J. Heitman, Prof. T. White, Dr. S. Filler, Dr. J. Rhodes, Dr. C. Hull, Dr. J Morschauer, Prof, N. Gow, Dr. J. Stajich, Dr. T. Hohl, Prof. D. Carter, Dr. C. Kumamoto, Dr. J. Konopka, Dr. T. Mylonakis and Dr. A. Nantel.

Initial tasks included the design of this year's Woods Hole exclusive T-shirt and selection of the entertainment committee. One of the highlights of the course for me were the three *in vivo* experiments which enabled all students to gain practical experience with two of the most commonly used animal models in fungal research (squids and clams!). In addition, there was an evening session on career development, focusing on fellowship and grant applications. Although mainly aimed at the American system, this session did provide insight into the structure of grant applications and was extremely interesting for international students who are considering a career in the US.

The quiet surrounding settings, provided an excellent opportunity for networking with course instructors and invited speakers. Dr. R. Bennett joined the course for two days providing an excellent opportunity to discuss his Nature paper on same sex mating in *C. albicans* just days after its publication.

Long laboratory days were balanced with evening entertainment, varying from drinks at the local pub (Captain Kidd) to bowling and swimming with fluorescent jellyfish. The course was concluded with a graduation led by Prof. T. White, as Prof. J. Edwards left early to attend the retirement party of the BSMM's Prof. Frank Odds.

In summary, I would like to thank the BSMM for the travel grant I received for attending this course. It provided me with an opportunity to meet new people, learn new techniques and be exposed to leading researchers in the field.

Rebecca Hall

ISHAM 2009

The 17th Congress of The International Society for Human and Animal Mycology was held in Tokyo, Japan, on May 25th – 29th, 2009. The BSMM generously supported the attendance of several members, enabling us to experience a lively and challenging meeting. Under the title of "Medical Mycology in the 21st

Century: Scientific Base and Anticipated Challenges", a variety of fascinating lectures and seminars addressed many issues which are faced by mycologists throughout the globe.

Talks addressing cell biology, biochemistry, immunology, and host pathogen interactions provided in depth insights into the basis of pathogenesis for multiple mycoses, including Aspergillosis, Cryptococcosis, Candidiasis and Zygomycoses. Groups from the UK were strongly represented throughout, with scientists from the Universities of Aberdeen, Manchester, Kent, London, Newcastle and Cardiff making essential contributions to morning sessions, keynote lectures and seminars.

Presentations of the latest clinical trends highlighted the importance of the biological work conducted into mycological pathogens. Despite much progress, it seems that problems of diagnosis and treatment of fungal infections remain as relevant in 2009 as ever before. Additionally, symposia into mycoses in Asia, Africa and South America introduced the work of many groups outside of Britain and Europe.

Highlights of the meeting included keynote speeches from leaders in the field. The historic account of the discovery and development of statins in the treatment of coronary heart disease by Akira Endo of Biopharm Research Laboratories, Tokyo, reinforced the potential impact that research into mycology can have on the health of millions worldwide. The collective contribution to our understanding of mycology from the other outstanding speakers cannot be overstated. Tokyo provided an exotic location for such a fantastic meeting, and the hospitality of the Japanese hosts was rivalled only by the beauty of the city.

Timothy Cairns

BSMM Travel Grant Applications

In order to make the application process and notification of results more efficient the Executive Committee will review Travel Grant applications every two months for the coming year. The deadlines for receipt of applications are: 31/01/10, 31/03/10, 31/05/10, 31/07/10, 30/09/10, 30/11/10. The criteria for eligibility and purpose of the award can be found on the BSMM website along with the application form. If you are planning to attend a meeting why not apply for some travel funds.

Glyn Evans Award

The Society recognized the huge contribution Prof Glyn Evans made to the BSMM and mycology by providing

an award to members to provide financial support to visit another laboratory for a period of training, usually to learn a specific technique. The Award contributes towards the costs of travel, accommodation and directly related expenses.

There are no set application deadlines for this award. And applications may be submitted for consideration at any time. An award will not usually be made if the applicant has received a previous award (Travel Grant or Glyn Evans Award) less than three years before the application date.

Obituary



**DR MARY PHYLLIS ENGLISH
1919 - 2009**

Mary English, one of the leading medical mycologists of her time and the author of two notable biographies of Victorian naturalists, died in Stamford, Lincolnshire, on 11 October 2009, aged 90.

Mary was born on 10 April 1919 in Malaya (now Malaysia), where her father was a rubber planter. She was brought up there and in Belgium before finishing her schooling at St. Stephen's College in Folkestone,

England. She then spent a year at the Regent Street Polytechnic in London, before obtaining a place at King's College, London in 1937. Evacuated to Bristol with her fellow students at the beginning of the war, she graduated with honours in Botany in 1941. Mary was then directed to work as an agricultural chemist for the War Agricultural Advisory Centre in Bristol, analyzing home-produced feeding stuffs for farm animals. During this period Mary studied in the evenings and weekends, obtaining an M.Sc. in Mycology from the University of London in 1943. By this time she was determined to pursue a career as a mycologist, and obtained a position as a plant pathologist at the East Malling Research Station in Kent where she studied fungal diseases in apple orchards. In 1946, Mary moved back to London to join a firm making science films, and this was followed by a spell as a Fellow in Mycology at the University of Birmingham.

In 1954, Robert Warin, a Consultant Dermatologist, and Kenneth Cooper, then Professor of Bacteriology, established a unit specializing in fungal diseases of humans at the United Bristol Hospitals. Their decision to appoint Mary English to head this unit provided her with a rare opportunity to enter the field. At that time, the majority of fungal infections were superficial, but Leeds and Glasgow were the only places in the country, outside London, where mycological diagnostic work was being carried out. The diagnostic service that Mary established at the Bristol General Hospital eventually came to serve many of the hospitals in the south-west and south of England, and was also used by many general practitioners. As medical practice advanced and opportunistic invasive fungal infections came into ever greater prominence, the service expanded to include serological testing and work with the antifungal drugs that were beginning to be introduced. In 1972, Mary and her unit were absorbed into the Pathology Department at the Bristol Royal Infirmary where she remained until her retirement in 1980.

Mary English was a meticulous worker who is best remembered for her ground-breaking research into the epidemiology of tinea pedis and the zoophilic dermatophytoses. However, her published work also included papers on the role of fungi in nail infections and the interpretation of laboratory tests in pulmonary aspergillosis. She discovered the hedgehog ringworm fungus, *Trichophyton erinacei*, on humans and animals in England after it had been reported for the first time from New Zealand, and she found that the field vole was the natural host of *Microsporum persicolor*. In 1970 she was awarded the degree of D.Sc. for her published research by the University of Bristol. Shortly thereafter, she was invited to join the Hospital Medical Committee of the United Bristol Hospitals and granted

the title of Consultant Mycologist, a singular honour for a clinical scientist at that time.

In 1980, Mary published her first book. 'Medical Mycology' was one of a series of 'Studies in Biology' sponsored by the Institute of Biology. It was designed to provide an introduction to the subject using selected diseases to illustrate the inter-relationships between fungus, host and the environment. By this time, Mary had become fascinated by the world of Victorian biological science, and following her retirement she embarked on a second career as a writer of biographies of some of the leading figures of the time. Initially, her interest focused on Mordecai Cubitt Cooke, one of nineteenth century Britain's most eminent mycologists and a founder of the British Mycological Society, who like herself on her mother's side, belonged to a branch of the Norfolk Cubitt family.

Her extensive research, which included a trip to Kenya to meet Cooke's youngest daughter (then in her nineties) and visits to Australia and New Zealand to meet other descendants, culminated in the publication in 1987, of a fascinating biography of this man of many talents. The son of a village shopkeeper who left school at the age of 14, Cooke was a self-taught naturalist who became an elementary school teacher, a museum assistant, economic botanist and civil servant, and finally the first professional mycologist to be appointed to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Despite international recognition, he remained an eccentric outsider among the gentleman scientists of the age.

Three years later, Mary published 'Victorian Values: The Life and Times of Dr Edwin Lankester'. Born in Suffolk of humble parentage, Lankester rose from apprentice to the local surgeon to become a London physician and naturalist. He became the first Medical Officer of Health in the Parish of St. James, Westminster, then Coroner for Middlesex, and became a leading figure in the struggle which culminated in the Medical Reform Act of 1858. His botanical contributions led to his election as a Fellow of the Royal Society.

In her last book, published in 2003, Mary collaborated with Professor Graham Ayliffe to write 'Hospital Infection: From Miasmas to MRSA'. This fascinating account of the social history of hospital care describes the rise, fall and re-emergence of new nosocomial infections, and documents the development of medical microbiology and infection control.

Mary was an active participant in the annual 2-day residential meetings of the Medical Research Council's Medical Mycology Committee, to which those known to be currently working on some aspect of medical or

veterinary mycology were invited. In 1965, she was a founder member of its successor, the British Society for Mycopathology (later to become the British Society for Medical Mycology). In 1959 and 1973, she served as the local organizer of these annual meetings, and following her retirement she was elected an Honorary Member of the Society. Mary was also a member of the British Mycological Society for over 60 years. She served twice on its Council, and for many years, rarely missed an Autumn Foray.

As Mary herself pointed out, the small spore which was 'sowed in 1954 has grown into a very large mushroom', for Bristol is now the home of the Health Protection Agency's Mycology Reference Laboratory.

David Warnock

BSMM Annual Meeting Exeter 2010

The 46th annual meeting of the society will be held at the **University of Exeter** from **Sunday 18th April to Tuesday 20th April 2010**. The annual dinner will be in the Woodbridge suite of the Reed Hall Events Centre (<http://www.exeter.ac.uk/reedhall/>) on the Monday evening after the annual general meeting and Foundation lecture. Accommodation will consist of en suite rooms in Holland hall (please see virtual tour at <http://www.exeter.ac.uk/virtualtours/accommodationbroadband/holland.shtml>) or details of local hotel accommodation can be requested from the local organiser. All conference facilities for meeting sessions, accommodation and the annual dinner are within five minutes walk across the beautiful campus grounds.

Steven Bates, Local organiser
s.bates@ex.ac.uk

Programme of Meeting and Events

SUNDAY 18th April 2010

13:00 – 16:00 Executive committee meeting
14:00 – 18:00 Registration
18:00 – 19:00 Food and Refreshments
19:00 – 20:00 **SPECIAL LECTURE**
 Medical mycology: where we've been and where we're going - a personal view
Frank Odds (University of Aberdeen, Scotland)
20:00 – 22:00 Poster session - Refreshments provided

MONDAY 19th April 2010

Session 1: Clinical mycology and experimental models of fungal infections (Chair: B. Hube)

08:45 Mucormycosis and zygomycosis infections
Rod Hay (International Foundation for Dermatology, UK)
09:10 *Candida*, *Aspergillus* and *Malessezia* infections
Sue Howell (St John's Institute for Dermatology, UK)
09:35 Experimental models of fungal infections: recent advances
Paul Fidel (Louisiana State University, New Orleans, USA)
10:00 Dermatophytes and the genome project
Ted White (Seattle Biomedical Research Institute, Seattle, USA)
10:25 OFFERED PAPER

10:50 – 11:10 Coffee

Session 2: Fungal cell wall, morphogenesis and pathogenicity (Chair: Gordon Brown)

11:10 Fungal cell wall structure and surface moieties involved in adhesion
Piet De Groot (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)
11:35 Receptor signalling in pathogenic fungi
Jesus Pla (University of Madrid, Spain)
12:00 Yeast vs hyphae: roles in *Candida* virulence
Bernhard Hube (University of Jena, Germany)
12:25 OFFERED PAPER
12:40 OFFERED PAPER

12:55 – 14:00 LUNCH and poster viewing

Session 3: Host responses to fungal pathogens: systemic (Chair: Neil Gow)

14:00 Fungi and TLR sensing in myeloid cells
Marisa Gil (University of Valencia, Spain)
14:25 □-Glucan receptor signalling
Gordon Brown (University of Aberdeen, UK)
14:50 *Candida* and the interferon response
Olivia Majer (Medical University Vienna, Austria)
15:10 OFFERED PAPER
15:25 OFFERED PAPER

MONDAY 19th April 2010 (continued)

15:40 – 16:15 Coffee

16:15 – 17:45 BSMM AGM or poster viewing

Session 4: FOUNDATION LECTURE

18:30 Drinks reception

19:00 Sexual reproduction in fungal evolution and virulence

Joe Heitman (Duke University, USA)

20:00 BSMM Annual Dinner and Sing Song!

TUESDAY 20th April 2010

Session 5: Host responses to fungal pathogens: mucosal (Chair: Paul Fidel)

08:45 *Pneumocystis* and epithelial signalling
Andrew Limper (Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Rochester, USA)

09:10 Epithelial recognition of *Candida*
David Moyes (King's College London, UK)

09:35 *Aspergillus* activation of epithelial tissues
Nir Osherov (Sackler School of Medicine, Israel)

10:00 OFFERED PAPER

10:15 OFFERED PAPER

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee

Session 6: Translational research: antifungal and immune therapy (Chair: Rod Hay)

11:00 Current status of antifungal drug therapy and potential new targets
William Hope (University of Manchester, UK)

11:25 Predisposition to chronic mucocutaneous candidiasis and APECED
Desa Lilic (Newcastle University, UK)

11:50 Role of IL-17 and IL-22 in fungal protection and translational medicine
Teresa Zelante (University of Perugia, Italy)

12:15 OFFERED PAPER

12:30 OFFERED PAPER

12:45 Prize award: Best Oral Presentation from OFFERED papers

12:50 – 14:00 LUNCH

END OF PROCEEDINGS

Nominations for Treasurer

The position of Treasurer for the BSMM is up for election and nominations are invited. If you know of someone who would be interested in being our next Treasurer please contact Sue Howell on susan.howell@kcl.ac.uk for a nomination form. The form requires a proposer and a seconder and has to be signed by the person nominating. Please submit your nominations by 31st January 2010.

Life and honorary membership

The Society would like to ensure that it acknowledges the contributions of its members and welcomes nominations for life and honorary membership. Life and honorary members have all the privileges of ordinary membership but are exempt from paying any annual subscription charges. The constitution states that "Members of at least 10 years standing, who have retired from active practice, shall be eligible to become life members. Members who have made a notable contribution to medical or veterinary mycology and/or to the work of the Society, shall be eligible for nomination to honorary membership."

A member can be nominated for either life or honorary membership by the Committee or by two members, as long as the nomination is received by the General Secretary by the 18th January 2010. The award of life or honorary membership is then voted upon at the AGM.

Funding and Studentships

The Gilead UK & Ireland Fellowship Programme 2010

Following the successful launch of the Gilead UK and Ireland Fellowship Programme (GUKIFP) in 2009, we are pleased to provide details for an expanded Fellowship Programme for 2010, which aims to provide grants amounting to £780,000.

In 2009 the Fellowship review committee awarded 19 grants totalling over £335,000 across three disease areas – HIV, Invasive Fungal Disease and Chronic Hepatitis B (cHBV) to applicants throughout the UK and Ireland whose projects represented a broad range of initiatives in a variety of settings from Aberdeen to Dorset.

The committee were genuinely impressed by the diversity and coverage of projects submitted for funding in 2009 and subsequently, the lessons learnt from the successful applications will be shared at a Best Practice Sharing Event to be held at The Kings Fund in London on 20th and 21st May 2010. Further details of this event



can be obtained by contacting the Fellowship coordinator at fellowshipprogramme@gilead.com.

The aims of this programme are to support the development, exploration and dissemination of best practice which enhances patient care in the specific disease areas of HIV, Invasive Fungal Disease and Chronic Hepatitis B. Financial grants amounting up to £780,000 will be awarded to individual organisations or groups of healthcare providers within a locality whose proposals best demonstrate a plan to deliver:

1. Targeted, locally based initiatives, in high prevalence areas that increase HIV diagnosis and linkage into care. £300,000 will be available and this is expected to fund 10-14 projects
2. Broader, regional based initiatives which aim to replicate proven and effective, HIV diagnosis programmes across a clinical network by utilising existing linkages to care. £300,000 will be awarded to 3 to 4 projects. These grants will be awarded at SHA/Clinical network level and are contingent upon committed matched funding from the local NHS, to ensure sustainability of the project
3. Targeted, locally based initiatives, in high prevalence areas, that increase cHBV diagnosis and linkage into care. £100,000 will be available and this is expected to fund 6-8 projects
4. Audit programmes to determine the optimal treatment pathways for patients with Invasive Fungal Disease. £80,000 will be available for this and is expected to fund 4-6 projects

Clear criteria upon which grant requests will be assessed have been established as we expect this to be a highly competitive process for funding, similar to 2009.

Applications will be accepted from 10th December 2009 – 31st March 2010 and we anticipate awards being made by the end of April 2010. The funding awarded is contingent on projects being completed by March 2011. For regional based HIV testing initiatives we would expect the Gilead funding to be utilised within 12 months from the award date, even if the project continues beyond that date with local NHS funding.

In order to facilitate the sharing of best practice, Gilead Sciences Ltd will again be hosting an event in the second quarter of 2011 at which the award recipients will be invited to present the learnings gained from their

project with other grant recipients and interested colleagues.

Gilead is committed to supporting local initiatives which ultimately improve patient care and we look forward to receiving completed applications over the next few months. For more information on The Gilead UK & Ireland Fellowship Programme, for details of how to apply and the assessment criteria, please contact us at fellowshipprogramme@gilead.com.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Bright
General Manager, Gilead Sciences Ltd, UK & Ireland
Dr Cham Herath
Medical Director, Gilead Sciences Ltd, UK and Ireland

Infectious Disease Research Network (IDRN) - Student Placement Programme

This is a brand new IDRN activity, and is intended to act as a catalyst, or match-making facility, between talented and committed students, and institutions in the United Kingdom, by allocating volunteers to infection-related research projects (placement time could be anything from a few weeks, to a year-long placement, to one day a week during term times).

If you're a researcher...

...And you could do with extra help on a study, then do send us the details (including brief details of the likely type of work on offer, plus the length of time of placement). There is a short form on the above webpage (or email us the details directly)

Also, see the programme webpage for interested students. This page will be continuously updated in the coming months.

If any of the student profiles are of interest, please do contact them directly. The method of recruitment (interview, taking up of references etc) is up to you, although if the IDRN can help in any way, please do contact us.

(If you do recruit a student via this method, do email us to let us know!)

If you're a student...

...And you are thinking a work placement in a research institution might be for you, then do send us your details, research interests and requirements (e.g.

location of work, prefer lab-based or non lab-based activity etc). The programme webpage has a brief form for you to fill out. We'll upload your information to this page for researchers to browse, and contact you if they so wish.

Advantages of this programme

The student will

- Gain valuable skills, experience and knowledge relating to current research and research methodologies
- Gain valuable contacts in research institutions
- Have a stronger curriculum vitae

The research institution will

- Gain a willing worker to assist with research procedures
- Have an extra pair of hands, that can enable activity, processes or other short-term projects to be put in place that may otherwise not have been possible
- Have positively contributed towards a students' knowledge and experience
- Have promoted their own area of research and facilities for the 'next generation'.

Whats next?

Well, if you're a student, send us your details. If you're a researcher, likewise. And look at the programme webpage regularly to see if there are students / projects that suit you.

Over the next few months, the IDRN will forward details of the programme far and wide in the research community and infection-related professional bodies and societies. We will also contact the student community, via various student bodies, UK medical schools and as many undergraduate and postgraduate science tutors as we can manage, and hopefully build up a very useful (and free) service for the research and student communities.

Although the scheme is essentially up and running now, it may take a few months for completely engage the respective communities. See <http://idr.org/placements/> for more information.

Forthcoming meetings

4th **Advances Against Aspergillosis**, February 4-6, 2010. Rome, Italy. Details: www.aaa2010.org

ESCMID Conference on **Invasive Fungal Infections**
8 - 19 February 2010, Rome, Italy

Focus on Fungal Infections. March 3-5, 2010, New Orleans, USA. www.imedex.com.

SGM Spring meeting. 29th March -1st April 2010, Edinburgh, Scotland.
www.sgm.ac.uk/meetings/forthcoming.cfm

The 10th ASM Conference on **Candida and Candidiasis**. 22-26 March, 2010, Miami, Florida, USA.

The 2nd ASM Conference on **Dimorphic Fungal Pathogens**. 22-26 March, 2010, Miami, Florida, USA. 10th -13th April 2010, Vienna, Austria.
www.congress.ch/ECCMID2010/main.html

European Congress on **Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ECCMID)** will take place in Vienna, Austria, 10-13 April, 2010.
www.congress.ch/ECCMID2010/main.html

BSMM 46th Annual meeting
18th -20th April, Exeter UK. www.bsम्म.org

ASID 2010
Australian Society for Infectious Diseases 26th-29th May 2010, Brisbane, Australia. www.asid.net.au

The 10th International Conference on **Molecular Epidemiology and Evolutionary Genetics of Infectious Diseases (MEEGID X)**, November 3-5 2010. Amsterdam, The Netherlands

IMC9: The Biology of Fungi
1st-6th August 2010, Edinburgh, Scotland.
www.imc9.info/

AICA 2010
Australian Infection Control Association 4th-6th October 2010, Perth, Australia.
<http://www.aica.org.au/default.asp?PageID=14>

The 5th **Trends in Medical Mycology (TIMM)** will take place in the Valencia Conference Centre, Valencia, Spain, 2-5 October 2011. The website is www.TIMM2011.org.

Items for the next BSMM newsletter

If you have any ideas, reviewed a mycology book, or come across something that would be of interest to our community, and that would be suitable for publication in the BSMM Newsletter please email Sue at susan.howell@kcl.ac.uk

BSMM membership

Currently the Society has 313 members. There are 234 UK members and 75 overseas members including 29 honorary and life members.

Since the AGM in March the Society would like to welcome the following members:

- Alicia Rivera (London)
- Anna Tillman (Aberdeen)
- Joanne Slater (Manchester)
- Laura Alcazar-Fuoli (London)
- Kenneth Mallia (Malta)
- Christine McKelvie (Aberdeen)
- James McLaughlin (Aberdeen)
- Julian Rutherford (Newcastle upon Tyne)

And finally.....



Geoff Gadd