

Robin Franklin Professor of Stem Cell Medicine



Robin Franklin has been appointed Professor of Stem Cell Medicine with effect from 1st January 2014. Robin, who is currently in the Veterinary School in West Cambridge, will be moving to the School of Clinical Medicine on the Biomedical Campus to take up the new professorship. A key part of his role will be as Head of Translational Science for the Stem Cell Institute, with responsibility for promoting and coordinating research aimed at turning scientific discoveries into medical applications.

SCI Bioinformatics Core contributes to new genome- scale resource

SCI core bioinformaticians Patrick Lombard and Lila Diamanti have contributed to the creation of HAEMCODE, a large scale repository for transcription factor binding maps in



mouse blood cells. Transcription factors are proteins that bind to specific DNA sequences, thereby controlling the flow of genetic information from DNA to messenger RNA. The HAEMCODE project is overseen by SCI member Professor Bertie Gottgens, and is designed to harness the power of genome-scale information to improve our understanding of both normal and leukaemic blood stem cells. For more information visit the [SCI website](http://www.stemcells.cam.ac.uk).



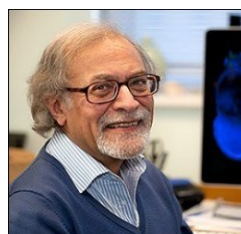
Visit the SCI website and Intranet for further information on SCI activities and to access members -only information.

www.stemcells.cam.ac.uk

Member Newsletter

Issue 3 —January 2014

Azim Surani 2014 McEwen Award for Innovation



Azim Surani has been awarded the 2014 McEwen Award for Innovation by the International Society for Stem Cell Research. The McEwen Award for Innovation, supported by the McEwen Centre for

Regenerative Medicine, recognizes original thinking and ground-breaking research pertaining to stem cells or regenerative medicine that opens new avenues of exploration toward the understanding or treatment of human disease or affliction.

Wellcome Trust confirm renewal of our 4 Year PhD Programme in Stem Cell Biology and Medicine

The renewal takes effect from 2014 and will enable to Institute to recruit 4 students per year for the next 5 years. For more information on the Wellcome Trust's flagship PhD scheme visit their [website](http://www.wellcome-trust.org).

SCI Postdoc Community

Following our SCI Annual meeting in December a new SCI Post-doc community is being created. A Post-doc committee has been formed and we have published some dedicated pages on our intranet and populated some new mailing lists. The committee hope to set up events that will be of interest as well as using the lists to send targeted information on careers, networking etc. Visit our intranet for more information.

New Grants for SCI PIs



**LEUKAEMIA
& LYMPHOMA
RESEARCH**

Beating Blood Cancers

Tony Green has been awarded £2.6 million pound grant by Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research. Tony is leading the five-year programme to help increase understanding of myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPNs).



MRC Medical
Research
Council

Alan Warren has been awarded a £2M Programme grant from the MRC (3 post-doc positions) to continue our work on the molecular mechanisms of eukaryotic ribosome maturation and how defects in this process affect stem cell function.



**British Heart
Foundation**

Sanjay Sinha has been awarded a British Heart Foundation Clinical Senior Research Fellowship for a project entitled 'Vascular Disease Modelling using Human Pluripotent Stem Cell-Derived Smooth Muscle Cells'.

Welcome to our New Affiliate PIs

Since the last newsletter in August 2013 3 new Affiliate PIs have joined the SCI:



Ana Cvejic
Developmental Haematopoiesis
University of Cambridge
as889@cam.ac.uk



Jenny Pell
Regulation of adult muscle stem cell behaviour
Babraham Institute and University of Cambridge
jp373@cam.ac.uk



Meritxell Huch
Gurdon Institute
University of Cambridge

Káradóttir Lab Moves to CSCR Site



In early January Thora Káradóttir's lab relocated to the SCI's CSCR site on Tennis Court Road. See the SCI Intranet for her new contact details.

Tell us about your Publications

Details of the processes and the forms can be found on the [Publication section](#) of the SCI Intranet.



Welcome: Susana Camacho



Susana is the **SCI's new Records Assistant**. She will be responsible for the maintenance of all data relating to SCI activities. She will therefore be helping with:

- liaison with the Wellcome Trust/MRC and press office about your publications
- updating your symplectic records with information on your publications, public engagement activities, conferences you have attended etc.
- creation of the institute's Annual Review (Brochure)
- submission of the Institute's Annual Report to the Wellcome Trust/MRC.
- **Susana can also help you with payment of your OPEN ACCESS FEES!!!!**

Contact Susana: sci-records@stemcells.cam.ac.uk or 01223 (7)46792

IMPORTANT

Please tell Susana about your publications **BEFORE** they are published so that we can notify the Wellcome Trust / MRC in case they wish to do a press release.

SCI Facility info

New Sequencing Service for SCI

The CI sequencing core facility has recently acquired a HiSeq2500, the new top of the range Illumina sequencing machine. This is financed through a special agreement with Illumina, which allows separate institutes in Cambridge to buy a share of the instrument. This means that over the next two years, SCI has committed to buy 10% of the reagents at list price which would keep the machine busy over that period of time. So over the next two years, we are hoping to supply the CI with enough sequencing projects to fulfil this commitment! What that translates to in terms of cost per lane and lanes per month is shown in the table below. These prices are very competitive, and since the facility is part of the Cambridge University they will also be VAT free.

	Standard	Rapid
SE50	£474/8 lanes per month	£436/9 lanes per month
SE100	£650/6 lanes per month	£598/6 lanes per month
PE50	£812/5 lanes per month	£748/5 lanes per month
PE75	£988/4 lanes per month	£910/4 lanes per month
PE100	£1163/3 lanes per month	£1023/4 lanes per month

The HiSeq2500 has two different run modes. The standard run is as known from the HiSeq2000, and takes 9 to 14 days to complete. In this mode, the machine takes two flowcells with 8 lanes each. The output per lane is estimated to be 180-200 million reads. This run mode is suitable for large projects with multiple samples. For smaller research projects, which just require a few lanes and would thus be forced to wait until a machine can be filled up, the HiSeq2500 now offers a convenient solution. In the rapid run mode, the machine takes two flowcells with 2 lanes each, and the run only takes about 27 hours. The output in this mode is estimated to be 150 million reads per lane. The data quality stays the same. However, in the rapid mode, read lengths can be increased from 100bp to 150bp.

Take advantage of this amazing offer and start your sequencing projects now!

Check the website on the intranet for updates (<http://intranet.stemcells.cam.ac.uk/facilities/equipment/facilities/sequencing/>). If you need any help, advice or **for any orders please contact Maïke Paramor** from the NGS library facility.

Upcoming Events

Stem Cell Club

An evening seminar series with 3 invited speakers

Invited speakers are members of, or visitors to, the Cambridge stem cell community. The talks are followed by refreshments and an opportunity to discuss the topics of the evening. This year's dates are:

*19th February 2014
20th March 2014
17th April 2014
15th May 2014
26th June 2014
24th July 2014
18th September 2014
30th October 2014
27th November 2014*

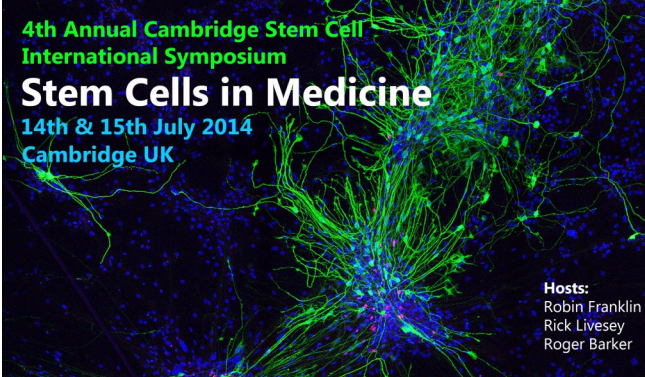
If you have a breaking story you would like to present please contact Austin Smith.

Visit the [SCI website](#) for details of all our SCI events.



Dates for your diary:

4th Annual Cambridge Stem Cell International Symposium
Stem Cells in Medicine
14th & 15th July 2014
Cambridge UK



Hosts:
Robin Franklin
Rick Livesey
Roger Barker

4 year PhD Programme Day - 3rd June 2014
SCI PhD Day - 22nd July 2014
SCI Annual Meeting - 15th & 16th December 2014

Public Engagement



Volunteers Needed!!!!

Thanks to the generosity of various SCI Labs we are able to expand our Science Festival activities in 2014. Sessions include:



Stem Cell Discoveries

Drop-in sessions at the Biology Zone

15th and 16th March 2014 - The Corn Exchange

23rd March 2014 - Cambridge Biomedical Campus

About 30 volunteers are needed to help at the drop-in sessions on each of the dates above. Anyone from the SCI can get involved. They are fun-packed days and previous volunteers can confirm how rewarding the event is (and it looks good on your CV!).

To volunteer please contact Rodrigo Santos: rld40@cam.ac.uk

Stem cells and repairing brains

17th March 2014 - A talk by **Robin Franklin**

Using physics and engineering principles in stem cell research

18th March 2014 - A talk by **Kevin Chalut**

What can stem cells do for Parkinson's Disease?

19th March 2014 - A talk by **Roger Barker**

Reprogramming adult cells back into embryonic stem cells

20th March 2014 - A talk by **Jose Silva**

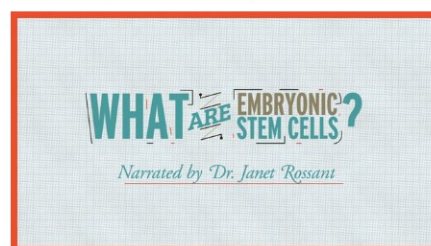
Film Shorts

David Kent kindly drew our attention to some new public engagement films which you might find useful if you are doing any public engagement events. One of them is narrated by Janet Rossant (SCI ISAB Chair)

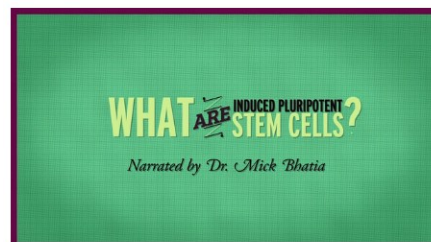
<http://benpaylor.tumblr.com/post/62881073852/launching-our-stemcellshorts-animation-project>



2. What are embryonic stem cells? Narrated by Dr. Janet Rossant



3. What are induced pluripotent stem cells? Narrated by Dr. Mick Bhatia



SCI Branding

Please use our SCI templates for posters and powerpoint presentations.

<http://intranet.stemcells.cam.ac.uk/centres-info/template-docs/>

If you need SCI business cards contact the SCI Coordinator

How to contact people in the SCI

SCI Directory

A directory of all SCI members with photos, names, email address and phone numbers.

Postal Addresses

Postal addresses can be found in the contacts section of the intranet.

SCI Mailing Lists

Mailing Lists for each SCI group - incl. research groups, facilities, administrators, students etc.

<http://intranet.stemcells.cam.ac.uk/contacts/>