

COMPARE

CENTRE OF MEMBRANE PROTEINS AND RECEPTORS

Newsletter

Edition 7, May 2018

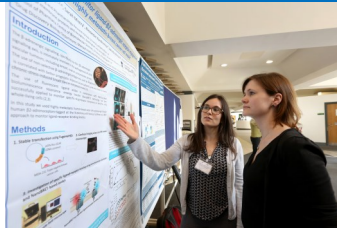
COMPARE Launch

The COMPARE launch was attended by 172 delegates. The launch was introduced by Professor Tim Softley, PVC for Research and Knowledge Transfer at the University of Birmingham, who outlined the partnership of the Centre of Membrane Proteins and Receptors to the worldwide audience. Professor Brian Kobilka, winner of the Nobel Prize, Chemistry 2012, gave a talk entitled “Structural *insights into the dynamic process of G protein coupled receptor activation*” which was informative and well received and sparked a number of thought provoking questions and responses.



COMPARE Team Science and ONCORNET Research Symposium

The Research Symposium on the 18th April 2018 was organised by the Team Science Committee as an opportunity to showcase the cutting-edge research being carried out by researchers within COMPARE and ONCORNET. The event was internationally attended by over 120 delegates from institutions including Imperial College London, Free University Amsterdam, Max Delbrück Centre for Molecular Medicine Germany, PSI Switzerland and Monash University. Ten speakers were invited to present their work which covered a diverse aspects of membrane protein biology. The poster and networking sessions provided an opportunity for dynamic discussions among the attendees. In fact, conversations were so lively that we had to remind people that the afternoon session was about to start!



The whole event was a great success with fantastic feedback from all involved.

#ECRTeamSci18

Brazil

COMPARE are pleased to announce that we signed a Collaboration Agreement on 12 April 2018 with the Centre for Research in Energy and Materials (CNPEM), Campinas, Brazil at the Brazilian Embassy in London.

The agreement will enable COMPARE to access specialist equipment dedicated to the study of membrane proteins, as well as providing access to a library of natural products that is only available in Brazil.



The specialist equipment includes one of the first fourth-generation synchrotron light sources in the world (Sirius) and two cryo-electron microscopes.

If you believe a visit to Campinas would be beneficial to your research, please email compare@birmingham-nottingham.ac.uk for a separate budget code at either Nottingham or Birmingham.

IN PARTNERSHIP:

The Universities of Birmingham and Nottingham

Key Dates

Image analysis with Fiji

9th May 2018 12:30-17:00

University of Birmingham

<https://jeremypike.github.io/image-analysis-with-fiji/>

Intermediate Image Analysis

10th May, 09:00 -16:00

University of Birmingham

<https://jeremypike.github.io/intermediate-image-analysis/>

Team Science Away Day

Fazeley Studios

Birmingham

18th May 2018

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/compare-team-science-away-day-tickets-44099152753>

Seminar—Dirk-Peter Herten

7th June 2018 12:00-13:00

IBR Seminar Room

University of Birmingham

Broadcast link to be circulated

Annual Research Symposium

Birmingham Hotel & Conference Centre

28th September 2018

Sandpit Event, Birmingham

26th October 2018 14:00-17:00

IBR Seminar Room

University of Birmingham

“Gene editing and stem cell approaches in the study of membrane proteins”

birmingham-nottingham.ac.uk/compare



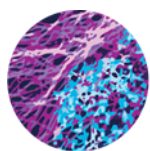
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Team Science Away Day—18th May 2018

On **Friday 18th May** the COMPARE Team Science Committee are hosting an Away Day for COMPARE PhD students, technicians and early career researchers. The event is being held at the Old Ikon Gallery, Fazeley Studios, 191 Fazeley Street, Digbeth, Birmingham D5 5SE. The general theme for the Away Day is being split between forging collaborations between COMPARE members, and a discussion on authorship driven by a panel of invited speakers, including Prof Jason Swedlow (University of Dundee). For more details and registration; <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/compare-team-science-away-day-tickets-44099152753>

Sandpit—26th October 2018

The first COMPARE sandpit meeting has been arranged for the 26th October 2018 14:00 –17:00 in the IBR Seminar Room, Medical School, University of Birmingham. The sandpit will focus on discussions on “Gene editing and stem cell approaches in the study of membrane proteins”. Further details will be provided in due course.

Grants—Success

Congratulations to Professor Paula Mendes’ lab, which has been awarded a MSCA Fellowship Grant (€195,450) entitled “Selective glycan recognition using molecularly imprinted liposomes”, in which Dr Seyed Tabaie with liposome expertise will be joining Prof Mendes group (Chemical Engineering) for two years to explore concepts and tools from lipid membrane biophysics and molecular imprinting to provide synthetic recognition platforms with high sensitivity and specificity for glycans. The project will address economic and societal challenges related to early cancer diagnostics through highly accurate detection of tumour-associated glycans.

Royal Microscopy Society

COMPARE hosted the first meeting of a UK based image analysis network which aims to become affiliated with the Royal Microscopy Society as a focused interest group. The network will support analysts by organising meetings, training events and supporting career development opportunities.

COMPARE Vacancies

Applications are invited for a **Professor of Cell Biology of Membrane Receptors** to the Centre of Membrane Proteins and Receptors (COMPARE) at the **University of Birmingham**, to provide leadership in cellular and molecular receptor research. Applicants should have a background in imaging approaches to study cell surface receptor activation and signaling in the fields of tyrosine kinase-linked receptors (including regulation of Src and Syk kinases) or G protein-coupled receptors. Applicants who have a track record of active engagement with the physical and computational sciences to develop new methodologies are strongly encouraged especially in probe development, nanoscience, image analysis, and machine learning. The major biological areas of focus in COMPARE are cardiovascular, metabolism and inflammation / immunology.

Further details and applications can be made through the University of Birmingham’s vacancies page <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/jobs/index.aspx>

Congratulations

Dr Steve Thomas, Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, University of Birmingham, who has been promoted to Senior Lecturer.

Professor Steve Hill and Dr Laura Kilpatrick who received the Life Sciences Video of the Year award at the 2018 Scientists’ Choice Awards for Life Sciences announced at the American Association for Cancer Research 2018.

Dr Laura Kilpatrick who was awarded the prize for the best oral communication for her work on VEGFR2-GPCR oligomeric complexes at the British Pharmacological Society Cell Signalling meeting on the 17th April 2018.

COMPARE— Website Technology pages

The Technology pages on the COMPARE website are currently under development (<http://www.birmingham-nottingham.ac.uk/compare/technologies/compare-technologies.aspx>). Feedback on the pages would be appreciated, as well as content suggestions. Please email compare@birmingham-nottingham.ac.uk, with comments or suggestions.

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