The 14th Annual John Vane Memorial Symposium

on Prostacyclin Science and Pulmonary Vascular Disease

8–9 March 2019
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I warmly welcome you to the 14th John Vane Memorial Symposium on Prostacyclin Science and Pulmonary Vascular Disease here at The Royal Society. I would also, once again, like to thank United Therapeutics for their valued support of the series by the provision of an unrestricted educational grant.

We are delighted to provide you with a varied scientific programme which showcases the very latest research and clinical advances in PAH. This year’s programme covers amongst other topics, recent research developments including the resolution of inflammation, the role that the human immune system plays and the contribution that omics profiling makes to identifying novel pathways and targets in PAH. We also will explore advances in gene therapy, new strategies for the administration of prostanoids and the importance of lowering mPAP as a treatment goal. On Saturday morning, there will be an interesting panel debate with key members and the audience, focusing on the latest ‘hot’ topics in pulmonary hypertension and transplantation.

I want to say a little about Professor Gustav (Gus) Born FRS, who was one of the Founding Directors of the William Harvey Research Institute and, indeed, our company, William Harvey Research Ltd, who sadly passed away in April last year. Prior to joining John Vane at the WHRI, Gus was the Head of Department at the Royal College of Surgeons in which Sir John had earlier worked. To me, Gus was an important mentor when I was a young academic and director in the company, and he was always prepared to offer his wisdom and support. Gus’s great enthusiasm for research, even when he reached the age of 96, and his caring friendship will be sorely missed by us at the William Harvey.

All of WHRL Conference organising team and myself wish you a productive and highly-enjoyable few days here at the Royal Society.

With warmest regards,

Chris

Sir John Vane, FRS, Nobel Laureate

“In many countries now, research in universities is under severe financial restraint. This is a short-sighted policy. Ways have to be found to maintain university research untrammelled by requirements of forecasting application or usefulness. Those who wish to study the sex-life of butterflies, or the activities associated with snake venom or seminal fluid should be encouraged to do so. It is such improbable beginnings that lead by convoluted pathways to new concepts and then, perhaps some 20 years later, to new types of drugs.”

Speech at the Nobel Banquet
December 10, 1982
Friday, 8th March 2019

08.15-09.15  Registration, tea and coffee
09.15  Welcome
Chris Thiemermann, Queen Mary University of London, UK

Session I

Chairs: Chris Thiemermann
        Brendan Whittle
09.30  Resolution of Inflammation
Mauro Perretti, Queen Mary University of London, UK
10.00  Role of the Human Immune System in PAH
Wolfgang Kuebler, Charite Berlin, Germany
10.30  Omics Profiling for Novel Pathways and Targets in PAH
Christopher Rhodes, Imperial College, London, UK
11.00  Refreshments

Session II

Chairs: Olivier Sitbon
        Jim White
11.30  Identification of Rare Sequence Variation Underlying Heritable PAH
Nick Morrell, University of Cambridge, UK
12.00  Lessons Learned from Drugs inducing Pulmonary Hypertension
Marc Humbert, Université Paris-Sud, France
12.30  Lunch

Session III

Chairs: Bob Bourge
        Duncan Stewart
14.00  New Insights into the Pathophysiology of PAH
Kurt Stenmark, University of Colorado, Denver, USA
14.30  Obesity and Pulmonary Hypertension
Olivier Sitbon, Université Paris-Sud, France
15.00  Lowering mPAP as Treatment Goal in PAH?
Hiromi Matsubara, Okayama University, Japan
15.30  Refreshments

Session IV

Chairs: Marc Humbert
        Irene Lang
16.00  Advances in Gene Therapy for PAH
Duncan Stewart, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Canada
16.30  Early and Aggressive Treatment in PAH: Time for RV Integration to Risk Assessment
Roberto Badagliacca, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
17.00-18.30  Meeting adjournment and evening reception at The Royal Society

Saturday, 9th March 2019

08.00-9.30  Tea and coffee

Session V

Chairs: Stephan Rosenkranz
        Kurt Stenmark
09.30  The Challenging Management of PAH with Comorbidities
Stephan Rosenkranz, University of Cologne, Germany
10.00  Balloon Angioplasty, a Modern Interventional Treatment of CTEPH
Irene Lang, Medical University of Vienna, Austria
10.30  New Strategies for the Administration of Prostanoids in PAH: Improved patient satisfaction and lower resistance to their use?
Bob Bourge, University of Alabama, Birmingham, USA
11.00  Refreshments

Session VI

11.30  Freedom EV: The climb is done... what can we see from the summit?
Jim White, University of Rochester, USA
12.00  Debate: Hot Topics in Pulmonary Hypertension and Transplantation
Paul Corris, University of Newcastle, UK
Irene Lang, Medical University of Vienna, Austria
Nick Morrell, University of Cambridge, UK
Sir Magdi Yacoub, The Magdi Yacoub Institute, Imperial College, London, UK
13.00  Lunch
14.00  Close of meeting
More than 24 nationalities participated at the 13th John Vane Memorial Symposium at The Royal Society in London in March 2018. We were delighted to welcome returning colleagues alongside many first-time delegates, all of whom came together to learn about the very latest developments in PAH.

The scientific programme, which was extremely well received, covered topics ranging from pathophysiology to risk assessment, prognosis, guideline implementation and patient stratification in patients with PAH to regulatory aspects relating to the registration of orphan drugs in PAH.

We would like to extend our thanks, once again, to everyone who contributed to the success of the symposium and for their valued contribution.

Here are some pictures from the 2018 symposium.

**William Harvey Research Limited**

**Contract Research**

WHRL, in addition to organising scientific conferences, has been leading the way as a preclinical contract research organisation (CRO) for the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors for over 25 years. Offering more than 120 in vivo and in vitro disease models across therapeutic areas, our expert team of academics from the prestigious, world-renowned William Harvey Research Institute in London provide bespoke study design, specialised advice, one-to-one discussions, comprehensive reports of research findings including full statistical analysis and interpretation of data, and long-term collaboration with strategic partners. With extensive expertise in models of inflammation and the cardiovascular system including hypertension, among many others, our team provides tailor made solutions for drug discovery.

**Shareholders**

WHRL is a business wholly committed to furthering preclinical research into cardiovascular disease and inflammation for translational and therapeutic purposes. Its profits are gift aided to its majority shareholder, the William Harvey Research Foundation, which in turn awards grants for such preclinical research. Grants amounting to over £10m have been awarded by the WHRF to date. WHRL works primarily but not exclusively at the central London facilities of the William Harvey Research Institute at Barts and the London School of Medicine, Queen Mary University of London, WHRL’s minority shareholder.

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www.williamharveyresearch.com
8-9 March 2019
Royal Society, London, UK

Faculty Chair
Chris Thiemermann, Queen Mary University of London, UK

Session Chairs and Panel Discussants:
Bob Bourge
University of Alabama, Birmingham, USA
Paul Corris
University of Newcastle, UK
Marc Humbert
Université Paris-Sud, France
Irene Lang
Medical University of Vienna, Austria
Nick Morrell
University of Cambridge, UK
Stephan Rosenkranz
University of Cologne, Germany
Kurt Stenmark
University of Colorado, Denver, USA
Duncan Stewart
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Canada

Olivier Sitbon
Université Paris-Sud, France
Jim White
University of Rochester, USA
Brendan Whittle
Queen Mary University of London, UK
Sir Magdi Yacoub
The Magdi Yacoub Institute, Imperial College, London, UK

The ‘14th John Vane Memorial Symposium on Prostacyclin Science and Pulmonary Vascular Disease’ has been approved by the Federation of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom for 8 category 1 (external) CPD credit(s).

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