



OXFORD INTERNATIONAL BIOMEDICAL CENTRE

Promoting healthcare, learning and research

Oxford International Biomedical Centre Newsletter #17, December 2010

Spring symposium

The 10th OIBC Spring Symposium was held, jointly with St Edward's School, in Oxford on 24 March 2010. The theme was *The human brain*. The speakers on this occasion were all from Oxford University (Dr Heidi Johansen-Berg, Prof Christopher Kennard, Prof Peter Somogyi and Prof John Stein), as was the Chair, Prof Angela Vincent. The presentations, and the lively debate that followed, were much appreciated by the 150 strong audience, that comprised lay adults, students and teachers from 7 schools including St Edward's, and some professionals.



Angela Vincent and John Stein



Christopher Kennard



Heidi Johansen-Berg

Other educational programmes

Cafés des Sciences on the *Diamond Light* facility (20 January), on *Biodiversity* introduced by Dr George McGavin (Oxford U) (11 February) and on *Nuclear Fusion* (30 November) were organised by Dr Kendall Williams with his usual flair and held at St Edward's School, Oxford. Altogether six schools, as well as St Edward's, have benefited from these events.

An additional *Café des Sciences*, on *Shark Attack*, again organised by Dr Kendall Williams, was held at King Edward VI Grammar School (KEGS) in Chelmsford (8 December). Three schools, in addition to KEGS, participated. This is the first time that OIBC has mounted such an event outside Oxford. Further *Cafés*, as well as symposia, at various locations outside Oxford are being planned for 2011.

Publications

Arising out of the 2008 symposium on *Access, not excess: novel ways to nourish the world*, Smith-Gordon (St Ives, Cambridge) published a collection of essays entitled *Access Not Excess. The search for better nutrition* (edited by Charles Pasternak)

Patrons and Trustees

There were no changes in the Board of Patrons or of Trustees during the year.

Director

In November Prof Alan Malcolm was elected Chair of the Trustees of the British Nutrition Society. Early in 2010, he contributed an essay on *Food Security* to the recent Government “Foresight” Programme. He continues as a Vice President of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee. At the end of 2010, he retired after ten years as a non-executive Director of Assured Food Standards (Red Tractor)

President

The President gave a talk on *What makes us human?* to a joint session of senior boys and girls from St James School, London at the Girls’ School in Hammersmith. He visited Kigali, Rwanda in May and had useful discussions with HE President Paul Kagame and with the Ministers for Health, for Education, and for Finance.

American Friends of OIBC

John H Barnes III stepped down as President: we are immensely grateful to him for his unstinted service over the years. We welcome in his place Dr David Hulme (President of Vision Media Productions in Pasadena, CA and Publisher of the quarterly magazine *Vision*)

Supporters

OIBC is indebted to donors for continuing support during 2010; these include:

Doris Field Charitable Trust
HDH Wills 1965 Charitable Trust
Medical Research Council
St Edward’s School, Oxford
The Lady Foley Trust
Vision – Insights and New Horizons

Volunteers

OIBC is dependent on the help it receives from a number of people in the UK and USA who share our vision. If you would like to be involved, please contact Charles Pasternak at capasternak@oibc.org.uk

Friends

OIBC is a charity registered in the UK; **American Friends of OIBC** is a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit corporation registered in Missouri, USA. Please help us to achieve our mission by a donation and becoming a Friend, or by giving your support in other ways. The minimum donation to receive the **Newsletter** and other information on an annual basis is £30/\$50. Cheques should be made payable to OIBC and sent to Kasia Lewis, OIBC, Culham Innovation Centre, D5, Culham Science Centre, Abingdon OX14 3DB (UK) or made payable to Am Fr OIBC and sent to Jinny Gender, Am Fr OIBC, 225 Peeke Ave, St Louis, MO 63122-2727 (USA). For further information contact Kasia Lewis in the UK [tel: 01865 408311; fax: 01865 408312; email: klewis@oibc.org.uk] or Jinny Gender in the USA [tel: (314) 966-3439; fax: (314) 966-7789; email: jgender1@aol.com].

On behalf of the Patrons and Trustees of OIBC and of the American Friends of OIBC, we thank you for your past support and look forward to receiving it in the coming year.