Head of Department’s Announcements
I am delighted to inform you that Matt Bown and Gerry McCann have both been awarded personal Chairs by the University. I am sure you will wish to join me in congratulating them on this milestone achievement.

New Graduates
Since the last newsletter, Saqib Qureshi has been awarded his MD and Hayley Crumbie has received her PhD award. Many congratulations to our new Graduates.

CVS Away Day
This year’s CVS Away Day for all staff and PGR students is on Wednesday 18 May. We will be at Stamford Court from 10am to 2pm, including lunch, and after lunch our Social Committee are planning some activities for us for the afternoon at the Manor Road sports ground. Please ensure that you’ve confirmed your attendance and meal/access requirements to Tina Godfrey.

Smarter Purchasing
Everyone should have received their training course dates by now for Smarter Purchasing – email Sue Lewin if you place orders but have not yet booked a place.

Research news

Prof David Lambert
New target could help to reduce symptoms of asthma attacks. An international team of researchers including Professors David Lambert from the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences and Chris Brightling from the Department of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation has examined the role of a receptor in the body that could help to prevent or reduce the effects of asthma attacks.

Prof Nilesh Samani
New heart attack genes discovered. Scientists have discovered two new genes which are associated with a person’s risk of coronary heart disease in an international collaboration involving BHF and NIHR-funded researchers. The findings could lead to new statin-like treatments to prevent heart attacks.

Prof Toru Suzuki
Research shows red meat metabolite levels high in acute heart failure patients. Patients with acute heart failure often have high levels of the metabolite trimethylamine N-oxide (TMAO) – of which red meat is a major dietary source.

Dr Clett Erridge
Molecules in processed foods could unlock key to healthier diets. The study identifies a particular kind of contaminating molecule known as ‘pathogen-associated molecular patterns’ (PAMPs), which are released by certain types of bacteria as they grow during some food processing and refrigeration processes, and may increase our risk of developing conditions such as coronary artery disease and Type 2 diabetes.
Congratulations

Nilesh Samani has been announced as the next Medical Director of the British Heart Foundation (BHF). He will succeed Professor Peter Weissberg who will retire in October 2016 after twelve years as Medical Director of the cardiovascular research charity.

Gina Barnett was promoted to Research Associate in the recent promotions round.

Anvesha Singh won the Society of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance (SCMR) 2016 'Early Career Award (Clinical)' at their annual meeting in LA for an oral presentation on 'Myocardial Perfusion Reserve but not fibrosis predicts outcomes in initially asymptomatic patients with moderate to severe aortic stenosis. The PRognostic Importance of Microvascular Dysfunction in AS study- PRIMID AS'.

Matthew Charlton has been awarded a grant of £6,511 from the National Institute of Academic Anaesthesia (NIAA-AAGBI) for his project entitled 'Can infrared thermal imaging be used to quantify abnormal skin perfusion in sepsis?'

Abi Al-Hussaini has been awarded a National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) Rare Disease Fellowship of £57,410.

Bake Sale for Sport Relief raised £285 (£356.25 with Gift Aid) well done to Jackie Howarth and all the bakers and buyers.

Outreach

STEMNET Ambassadors

On Wednesday 9 March Meeta Patel, Abi Sanusi, Jodie Sandhu and Ben Richards volunteered in a STEM Inspiration ‘Show and Tell’ event inspiring students aged 11-14 to consider a career in STEM subjects, in particular Science. The students were given the opportunity to ask questions about the application of Science as a career. The event was very well received with lots of questions from students and teachers. The morning event was held at Madani Schools Federation.

Patient and Public Involvement

Prof Gavin Murphy’s Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) work has been featured in a local article published in the Groby and Field Head Spotlight (page 15).

Training

On Tuesday 19 April Daniel Lawday will be presenting a Microsoft Excel Fundamentals Training Session which will look at Excel from the ground up focusing on the most important fundamental concepts and tools. You will learn to navigate through the Excel interface getting the most out of it with ease. This session is supported with Excel fundamentals documentation for referencing after the session. Topics covered: The Interface, Functions overview, frequently used functions and useful features.

The session will be in the Thakrar Seminar Room, 3rd Floor CVRC on 19 April 2016, 2pm-4pm

Places are limited and will be on a first come first serve basis. Please email Kelley Green to book your place.