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## Internal news and events

We're delighted to announce that our **Researching Resistance** photo exhibition will be making its way to Truro's [European Centre for Environment and Human Health](#) this **August and September!** These fifteen portraits celebrate antimicrobial research and its researchers at the University of Exeter and is a collaboration between artist Simon Ryder and the AMR Network. Representing a range of different research areas and career stages, **Researching Resistance** illustrates that AMR research requires the collaboration of people working across a full range of subjects.

UKRI MRC Centre for Medical Mycology UNIVERSITY OF EXETER ARTS AND CULTURE UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

The UoE AMR Network presents  
**Researching Resistance**

Photo exhibition now on  
**ECEHH Atrium**  
**August and September 2022**  
To arrange admission, email  
[ecchadmin@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:ecchadmin@exeter.ac.uk)

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER AMR Network

The exhibition can be viewed in the ECEHH Atrium throughout August and September, Monday to Friday, and is also available to view [digitally](#).

**DR AIMEE MURRAY** is co-developing a new virtual CPD course on AMR and One Health:



### A 'One Health' Perspective of Antimicrobial Resistance

#### Dates:

Pre-reading week – Week 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022

Virtual Teaching: 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 (13:00 –17:00) via Zoom

#### Why this Course Matters

*"AMR is not just a medical problem. It's also a threat to crops, to food security and to animals. This interconnection... demands a collaborative, trans-disciplinary, One Health approach to finding solutions."* Neil Gow, Professor of Microbiology, University of Exeter.

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is when micro-organisms adapt, such that they no longer respond to antimicrobial drugs. Recent estimates suggest that 5 million people die each year from antibacterial resistant infections, with the cumulative impact upon the global economy placed at \$100 trillion by the year 2050. AMR was added to the UK National Risk Register in 2014, alongside climate change, pandemic influenza, and terrorism. The UK Government, The World Health Organisation, The United Nations now recognise AMR needs a 'One Health' approach in policy documents.

#### Why the University of Exeter?

Our experts are producing ground-breaking, impactful research and driving forward innovation and discovery through taking a 'One Health' approach to AMR. On this course participants will learn directly from them about tackling and understanding antimicrobial resistance and, engage with industry professionals and government practitioners involved in translating research into policy and practice.

#### Who is it for?

- Professionals, organisations, and teams with AMR in their portfolio
- Early-career researchers/postgraduate researchers
- Those who are new to the topic and/or are taking an interdisciplinary approach to AMR

**Book Now and enjoy early bird discount rate £540** (until Sept 1<sup>st</sup>; £600 standard delegate rate after)  
For more information about the **programme and faculty experts**, please visit this [link](#).

**PROF STEVEN HINCHLIFFE** has been involved with a collaborative online course between **Sonar Global and the University of Amsterdam**

**The Social Dimensions of Antimicrobial Resistance** is live on [the Coursera website](#). A link to the course and the promotional video can be found here: <https://www.sonar-global.eu/mooc-on-amr-the-social-dimensions-of-antimicrobial-resistance/>

## Congratulations to...

### Dr Rhys Farrer



My group was recently awarded a Wellcome Trust Career Development Award on “Mechanistic insights into fungal pathogenicity and drug resistance using a novel lineage of *Cryptococcus*”. The grant, which starts in September, will enable the recruitment of two post-docs of 4 years each which may be of interest to people.

Prof Stineke Van Houte gave a talk titled "Evolutionary and ecological aspects of CRISPR-Cas – phage interactions" at the [Viruses of Microbes 2022](#) meeting in Portugal. This highlights the most recent advances in ecology and evolution of microbial viruses, virus structures and function, virus-host interaction, agro-food, veterinary and environmental biotechnology applications and phage therapy.

## OTHER NEWS

### Reminder of the Doctoral Career Development fund – deadline end of this month

This fund is to support additional training, research and innovation that builds on any aspect of their studentship training. Full details can be found at [£1.8 million funding boost from UKRI](#)

This can take place at any external organisation from any sector (including the university where the student undertook their PhD). Any BBSRC-funded PhD student registered/formerly registered at a GW4 university (this includes DTP and CTP students) and have submitted or are to submit their thesis between 1st January 2021 - 31st March 2022.

### Deadlines

*Applications:* These will be reviewed bi-monthly by the DTP, so students will be asked to submit their application by the end of the following months; Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sept.

*Activities:* Need to have taken place by 31st Dec 2022

If you have project updates or resources that you think might be of interest to other members of the Network, we would be pleased to highlight them through this monthly newsletter – contact us on [AMR-Network@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:AMR-Network@exeter.ac.uk)

## Publications

### Full Government report now available

We recently published "Antifungal Exposure and Resistance Development: Defining Minimal Selective Antifungal Concentrations and Testing Methodologies". The Environment Agency government report version of this publication will be available here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/scoping-review-into-environmental-selection-for-antifungal-resistance-and-testing-methodology> or through our University webpage here: <https://www.exeter.ac.uk/research/amr-research/news/articles/exetersmedicalschoollmrce.html>

**F. C. García, T. Clegg, D. Barrios O'Neill, R. Warfield, S. Pawar, G. Yvon-Durocher.** [Changes in species interactions amplify the temperature dependence of microbial community respiration.](#) *Nature Microbiology* (2022). Preprint.

**F. C. García, R. Warfield, G. Yvon-Durocher.** Thermal traits govern the response of microbial community assembly and ecosystem functioning to warming. *Frontiers in Microbiology* (2022).

Don't forget to use #ExeterAMR

## GW4 AMR Alliance



### GW4 AMR Alliance

The [GW4 AMR Alliance](#) continues to welcome new members from all disciplines and working at any level.

### How to join

Please sign up [here](#) to complete a short online registration form (this link can also be found on the [website](#) along with our Privacy Policy). If you have any queries, please do contact the AMR Alliance team at [amr@gw4.ac.uk](mailto:amr@gw4.ac.uk)

If you would like to find out more about the GW4 AMR Alliance and its aims, as well as hear about some of the research that is taking place across the four partner universities of Bath, Bristol Cardiff and Exeter, please have a look at the launch event [here](#).

### GW4 AMR Alliance ECR and PGR Network

The GW4 AMR Alliance ECR and PGR Network is working to develop its community network. You can find out more, including key contacts at each of the four partner universities and information on the developing events programme, on the dedicated webpage [here](#). There is also a link to join the network on the same page.

The next Lightning Talks event will be on **Monday 7 September**. This is an opportunity to participate in/hear short (3 min) talks from GW4 Alliance ECRs and PGRs working in a range of AMR disciplines and to network in smaller breakout groups hosted by committee members. Booking will open via the attached link from mid August:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lightning-talks-networking-event-gw4-amr-alliance-ecr-and-pgr-network-tickets-333553456367>

## External news and events

### Funding opportunities



#### GW4 BUILDING COMMUNITIES DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

These small awards (<£5K) will support the development and progression of collaborations by funding a single activity or resource. The aim is that communities will use the small awards as a step towards applying for external funding. Applications can come from new or existing GW4 communities.

The awards can be used for a variety of purposes, such as enhancing collaborative relationships (academic, industry or other stakeholders), seminars, community workshops, or public engagement activities. Projects which include external partners are encouraged, although not required.

There is no closing date for applications, with awards set to be made throughout the year.

**Read the *GW4 Building Communities Development Award Guidance* [here](#), and apply via this [form](#).**

Any questions can go to [communities@gw4.ac.uk](mailto:communities@gw4.ac.uk)

#### Funding Opportunity: [Work with US researchers: BBSRC-NSF/BIO lead agency 2022](#)

Below are details for how to apply for funding to collaborate with US researchers on a single joint proposal.

Funders: Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)

Co-funders: US National Science Foundation Directorate of Biological Sciences (NSF/BIO)

Funding type: Grant

Publication date: 13 July 2022

**Opening date: 13 July 2022 09:00 UK time**

**Closing date: 21 September 2022 17:00 UK time**

Areas of focus: Proposals relevant to the following priority areas and agency programs are eligible to apply for this opportunity: Biological informatics, Systems understanding of host-microbe interaction, Synthetic cells and cellular systems, Synthetic microbial communities.

Full details are available on the above link but you must be based at an organisation eligible for UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) funding.

Your project should:

- reduce the barriers that researchers and funding agencies encounter when working internationally
- address the priorities of both BBSRC and NSF/BIO
- provide a clear rationale for the need for a US-UK collaboration.
- The full economic cost of your project, including the UK and US components, can be up to £2 million BBSRC will fund 80% of the full economic cost for the UK component.
- The duration of your project should aim to be between three to four years and must not exceed five years.

There are 2 routes to submission via BBSRC (UK) or NSF (US). Applications should typically be targeted to the Agency (BBSRC or NSF-Bio) where the largest proportion of the research and associated budget is needed.

### **BSAC internship funding opportunity**

The Society is delighted to announce the launch of its [Parliamentary Internship Programme](#), in collaboration with Baroness Natalie Bennett, former leader of the Green Party and current Secretary of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Antibiotics.

This opportunity is open to all students who are existing or prospective BSAC members and enrolled on a UK PhD programme. The successful candidate will work with Baroness Bennett and the Society to respond to Parliamentary business in a range of ways that include research support, committee preparation, and the drafting of questions and briefings.

This programme is one of the ways in which the Society hopes to foster a greater understanding between the scientists and healthcare professionals in its network and the politicians and policymakers who make the laws and set the budgets which impact the collective effort to save lives by fighting infection.

Starting in September, the successful candidate will work 7 hours per week (0.2 FTE) alongside their academic studies and will be paid via BSAC payroll at the rate of National Living Wage. Each placement will run for six months, with the potential to extend for a further six months, following a review.

This initiative would be ideal for those individuals looking to bring their academic studies to life by deepening their understanding of policy and advocacy – while gaining invaluable experiences and making influential contacts.

**The deadline for submissions is August 5 [Click the link for further details.](#)**

## Sector news

The World Health Organisation have called for better use of existing vaccines and development of new vaccines to tackle AMR <https://www.who.int/news/item/12-07-2022-urgent-call-for-better-use-of-existing-vaccines-and-development-of-new-vaccines-to-tackle-amr>

Colleagues at Bristol University have produced an item on the link between AMR and feeding raw meat to pet dogs:

<https://www.bristol.ac.uk/news/2022/july/dog-raw-meat-amr.html>

## Sector events

### JPIAMR



<https://www.jpiaamr.eu/events/social-sciences-as-a-cross-cutting-theme-in-amr-research-and-innovation/>



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