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Congratulations to....



Dr Anne Leonard and **Dr Matt Jones** have been awarded a consultancy contract to work on “Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in the environment: Bioaerosols” for the Environment Agency. Worth £33k, they’ll be working with WSP and University of Cranfield, supported by **Prof Will Gaze**.

Congratulations to the BBSRC LoLa award recipients!



This five-year project entitled ‘Multi-layered bacterial genome defences: linking molecular mechanisms to bacteria-MGE conflicts in single cells, populations, and communities’ will fund a collaboration between 12 PI’s, including **Prof Edze Westra** (project coordinator), **Prof Stineke van Houte**, **Dr Mario Recker** and **Dr Stefano Pagliara** from the University of Exeter, who will be working with colleagues from Bath, Bristol, Durham, Liverpool, Manchester and St Andrews. Total project FEC £4.68m, with Exeter FEC £1.52m. Read the [University press release](#).

Emily Stevenson (co-supervised by **Aimee Murray** and **Angus Buckling** at Exeter, and Penelope Lindeque and Matt Cole at Plymouth Marine Laboratory) has been accepted onto a part-time, six-month parliamentary internship with Baroness Bennett (former leader of the Green Party) and the British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (BSAC) on antimicrobial resistance and One Health.

Have you signed up for Microbes & Society @ Exeter yet?



Microbes and Society is a new Exeter Research Network that builds on major centres of excellence at the University, including the Wellcome Centre for Cultures and Environments of Health, our own AMR Network, the Microbiology Networks, The Centre for the Study of Life Sciences (EGENIS) and the MRC Centre for Medical Mycology. Its aims are to include social, ethical, legal and policy perspectives into collaborative research, as well as integrating data science and mathematical modelling.

Sign up now for upcoming newsletters and event information: <https://bit.ly/3dH00EB>

Reminder: A 'One Health' Perspective of Antimicrobial Resistance



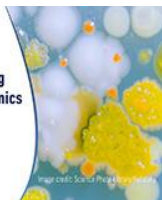
A 'One Health' Perspective of Antimicrobial Resistance CPD (virtual) Course is offered by the University of Exeter College of Medicine and Health. Speakers include Dr Anne Leonard, Dr Aimee Murray and Prof Will Gaze. More information [here](#). Early bird discount available.

New £8.7 million project seeks to understand the health risks posed by coastal waters due to climate change



The BlueAdapt project involves 12 institutes from across ten countries in Europe, bringing together an interdisciplinary team of researchers including microbiologists, epidemiologists, economists, climate scientists and policy specialists. The project will focus on a wide range of pathogens including antimicrobial resistant bacterial pathogens which are becoming increasingly hard to treat with antimicrobial drugs commonly known as antibiotics.

Read the full article here: [Articles | University of Exeter Medical School | University of Exeter](#)



22 – 23 November

Prof Stineke Van Houte is one of the organisers for this Microbiology Society focus meeting on [Understanding and Predicting Microbial Evolutionary Dynamics](#) taking place in Manchester. Dr Elze Hesse is one of the speakers.

OTHER NEWS

Funding news

We have been awarded Environment Agency funding for four projects:

- “Development of experimental approaches for determining selection concentrations for antifungals”. ~£130K. Led by **Aimee Murray**, with **William Gaze**, **Adilia Warris**, **Jane Usher** and **Neil Gow**
- “Determining concentrations of substances which influence development of AMR”. ~£34K. Led by **Aimee Murray**, with **William Gaze** and colleagues at the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology.
- “Applying a published approach for deriving resistance selection concentrations for antibiotics to antifungals”. ~£36K. Led by colleagues at the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology with **Aimee Murray** and **William Gaze**.
- “Disinfectant use in the UK and consideration of their impact on AMR development”. ~£37K. Led by colleagues at the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology with **Aimee Murray** and **William Gaze**.

Translational Funding Opportunity

Further to the announcement in the [University News](#), I'm very pleased to let you all know that the following new University of Exeter IAA awards are now LIVE and will run from 2022 to 2025:

- Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) IAA - £940k
- Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) IAA - £450k
- Medical Research Council (MRC) IAA - £414k

The IAAs support critical early-stage translation of UK research to real impacts, transforming public services, creating new jobs, attracting private investment, and forging new partnerships with business and charities. Funding allows UK teams to unlock the value of their work, including early-stage commercialisation of new technologies and advancing changes to public policy and services such as NHS clinical practice.

Full details about the UoE IAA schemes including application guidance and deadlines can be found on the [Translational Funding webpage](#) and do follow us on [Twitter](#) for regular updates!

Opportunities

There is a Phd opportunity available in the laboratory of Prof Ben Raymond. This is a collaborative project between Exeter, Bath and Cardiff involving evolutionary biology, peptide antimicrobials and genomics.

Title: Does resistance to antimicrobial peptides help bacteria avoid immunity and become more harmful?
MRC GW4 BioMed2 DTP PhD studentship 2023/24 Entry, PhD in Biosciences.

<https://www.exeter.ac.uk/study/funding/award/?id=4511>

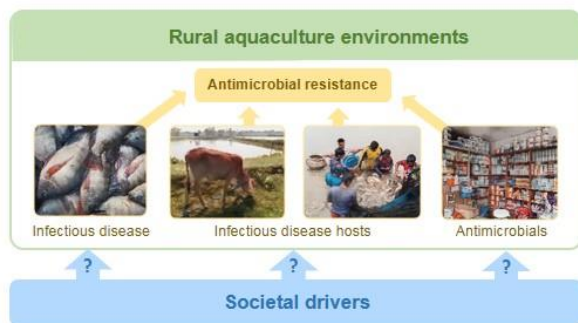
If you have project updates or resources that you think might be of interest to other members of the Network, we would be pleased to highlight them through this monthly newsletter – contact us on AMR-Network@exeter.ac.uk

Publications

Prof Neil Gow has had an article published on the important of antimicrobial resistance in Medical Mycology; it is an output based on a workshop that was hosted by the University of Exeter and the MRC in 2021. A link to the article can be found here: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36097014/>

April Hayes and Laura Murray have had their first author paper accepted in Environment International with Stanton IC, Zhang L, Snape, J, Gaze WH, Murray AK. Predicting selection for antimicrobial resistance in UK wastewater and aquatic environments: ciprofloxacin poses a significant risk. *Environment International*.

Kelly Thornber has had two articles published recently. One entitled “Hardwiring antimicrobial resistance mitigation into global policy”- <https://academic.oup.com/jacamr/article/4/4/dlac083/6653380>



The other is entitled: “Antimicrobial Resistance in Aquaculture Environments: Unravelling the Complexity and Connectivity of the Underlying Societal Drivers” and can be found here:

<https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.est.2c00799>

Prof Krasimira Tsaneva-Atanasova has had an article published on “Sensitisation to recombinant *Aspergillus fumigatus* allergens and clinical outcomes in COPD”

Tiew PY, Narayana JK, Li Quek MS, Ang YY, San Ko FW, Poh ME, Jaggi TK, Xu H, Thng KX, Koh MS, Tee A, Cheong Hui DS, Abisheganaden JA, **Tsaneva-Atanasova K**, Chew FT, Chotirmall SH.. *Eur Respir J*. 2022 Aug 4:2200507. doi: 10.1183/13993003.00507-2022. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35926878. The link can be found here: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35926878>

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

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 in October. 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.

External news and events

Funding opportunities

[BBSRC Bioinformatics and Biological Research Fund](#)

Remit: The BBR fund provides support to both bioinformatics and biological resources, for the UK bioscience community to access to state-of-the-art bioinformatics and biological infrastructure, facilities, and resources, in order to facilitate ground-breaking research in an internationally competitive environment. The fund supports the following types of applications:

- establishment and maintenance of a new and innovative resource that will be beneficial to a broader BBSRC user base
- maturation and subsequent maintenance of a project-based resource into a community-based one
- further development or essential maintenance of an existing community resource, with well-established access mechanisms, to increase its relevance to a broader BBSRC user community, for example, enhancing utility by enabling the resource to meet FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable, reusable) principles
- association, or integration, of distinct resources that will enhance their utility and create an upgraded resource with a greater value than the sum of the parts.
- Queries regarding fit to remit can be directed to bbr.fund@bbsrc.ukri.org

Duration and level of funding: Up to 5 years, and up to £2m (at 100% FEC). A total of £6m is available.

Deadline: 16th November 2022

BBSRC Global partnering award

These are *only available to those with a current BBSRC research grant* that started before the application deadline and has at least six months remaining from the start of this award. The Global Partnering Award webpage also has links to the other awards partnered with:

Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Taiwan, United States, Brazil pump priming, international travel award, international workshops.

Remit: Awards can be used to fund the following collaborative activities in emerging areas of science relevant to BBSRC's strategic priorities.

Duration and level of funding: Up to 4 years, and up to £30k (at 100% FEC, and will be funded at 100% FEC). A total of £30k is available. For the specific countries up to £50k is available.

Deadline: 10th November 2022

European Research Council Consolidator Grants – Deadline 2nd February 2023

We are now calling for expressions of interest from appropriate candidates for ERC Consolidators grant to be considered through our Expressions of Interest process. It is key we identify candidates at the right stage in their career who are proposing a suitably ground-breaking project. We aim to submit 15-20 proposals for the scheme.

Please see the *attachments* for details of eligibility and the internal expression of interest process.

Expressions of Interest should be submitted to euresearch@exeter.ac.uk by 11am on **24th October 2022**.

If you have any questions about the scheme, how this funding is working under the current UK underwrite scheme or anything else in this email please don't hesitate to contact Enda Clarke (e.clarke@exeter.ac.uk)

Sector news

UK Research and Innovation

Researchers have developed a first-of-its-kind self-sterilising plastic film that can kill viruses that land on its surface with room light. The film has been developed by Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)-funded researchers at Queen's University Belfast. Read more here: <https://www.ukri.org/news/plastic-film-can-kill-viruses-using-room-lights/>

Sector events

Royal Pharmaceutical Society Annual conference November 2022

Wilcock M, Motta M. A short survey on GP practices' approach (structure and process) for managing sepsis,

United Kingdom Clinical Pharmacy Association conference November 2022

Wilcock M, Motta M. A review of penicillin allergy as an indication for clarithromycin prescribing in general practice,

Wilcock M, Motta M. Antimicrobial stewardship and potential inappropriate prescribing of clarithromycin in general practice.



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