



Connective Issues

BSMB Newsletter

Committee:

Prof John Couchman (Chair), Prof Kim Midwood (Secretary),
Dr Tom van Agtmael (Treasurer), Ms. Jade Gumbs (Student rep),
Dr Andrew Hellewell (Post doc rep), Dr Qing-Jun Meng,
Prof George Bou-Gharios & Dr James Whiteford

Registered Charity no. 281399

No. 90, June 2017

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Editorial

Welcome to the 90th Connective Issues; and as the weather heats up, so too does Matrix Biology. Our field continues to expand in scope and in impact, and there is a real feeling of excitement and possibility in the air; with new research areas emerging, interdisciplinary collaborations at the forefront, and increasing interest in the pharmaceutical sector in targeting the matrix. Particularly, it is an exciting time to be a young researcher in Matrix Biology. The BSMB has always had students and postdocs at its heart; so please do come along and talk about your work at a BSMB meeting poster or oral presentation session, and do apply for the awards and bursaries currently available....check out the new eligibility rules and submit your application now!

As we move into the summer, whatever the weather brings, there will always be something going on in Matrix Biology, so please do consider one or all of the following:

- **Register now** for the **BSMB Autumn 2017** meeting at QMUL in London, organised by James Whiteford, on the very topical theme of **'Translating the matrix'**.
- **Plan ahead:** there will be only one BSMB meeting in 2018 – a feast of international science - Matrix Biology Europe will be held in Manchester in July 2018, with our biannual Spring and Autumn meetings back in full force in 2019.
- **Represent:** students and post docs; now is your chance to join the committee: we are looking for new reps to take office this year; this is a great opportunity to help shape BSMB's future.
- **Follow us:** BSMB is currently the most followed matrix society in the world on twitter; come and see what everyone is talking about...

Kim Midwood, Honorary Secretary

Chair's Letter

Dear BSMB members:

Welcome to the Summer 2017 newsletter. Our highly successful Spring meeting in Oxford reminded me of some important facets of the BSMB. As usual, the meeting was characterised by excellent science, the presence of many young scientists and a highly interactive and friendly environment. It was a chance to meet old friends and make some new ones. We enjoyed the participation of many matrix biologists from the Nordic countries and the feedback I have received from them has been universally positive. I can reiterate my thanks and congratulations to Linda Troeberg for organising a great three days.

This raises a key point about the BSMB. We have been very fortunate that many people have freely given their time to help make the BSMB the success that it is. I would like to specifically name and thank a few who have made a huge difference to our Society in the recent past. As I pointed out at the April meeting, in addition to serving on our Committee, including two terms as Treasurer, Graham Riley was instrumental in getting our website established and organised. He has been the webmaster for many years and has provided indispensable support for our activities. Recently he has indicated that he would like to hand over to a new webmaster, and we are very pleased that James Whiteford has volunteered. A huge vote of thanks goes to Graham for his many years of support for the BSMB.

Second, Andy Pitsillides has stepped down after two terms as our Honorary Secretary. Andy brought his inimitable humour and great organisational skills to the job, but throughout has been completely dependable and a pleasure to work with. Our Committee meetings were a place to get things done, but in an immensely enjoyable way in no

small part because of Andy's warm, low-key but efficient style. Many thanks Andy for an outstanding job. The Secretary post has a great deal of responsibility attached to it, and we are grateful to Andy but also Kim Midwood, who takes over the reins.

For many years, going back to the time when Bruce Caterson was Chairman, we have included one PhD student representative and one postdoctoral representative on our Committee. This has been a great success and provides us with links to our younger members. Moreover, Jade Gumbs and Andrew Hellewell have been active with social media on behalf of the BSMB. Both are stepping down at our September meeting and we are seeking their replacements as you will see later in this newsletter. I would like to thank Jade and Andrew very much for their input and work for the Society and wish them every success in their future endeavours.

With our September meeting in mind, please see the details in this newsletter provided by James Whiteford. We shall be at Queen Mary University of London and I hope to see as many of you as possible. For new BSMB members attending the meeting, please introduce yourselves to Committee members if you have the chance. I am sure it will be an enjoyable and rewarding occasion.

Best wishes for a good summer.

John Couchman, Chairman BSMB.

BSMB News

On-line registration is now open for the BSMB Autumn meeting 2017 meeting held at Queen Mary University of London on the 4th and 5th of September 2017.

The meeting is organized by James Whiteford, and the theme is 'Translating the Matrix'. The aim is to focus on aspects of

how we are translating our research towards novel therapies. The organisers hope to give you a traditional East-end welcome, with some 'knees up' style dancing in the evening!

Deadline for abstract submission is 18th of August 2017, for bursary applications 1st of August 2017, and Early bird registration ends 4th of August 2017.

For further information and to register, please visit <http://www.bsmb.ac.uk/bsmb-autumn-meeting-2017/>.

More details below.

Mark your diary

BSMB Autumn 2017 Meeting

London September 4-5 2017

Matrix Biology Europe 2018

Manchester July 21-24 2018

BSMB Spring 2019 Meeting

Liverpool April 8-9 2019

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook for all the latest BSMB news. This includes important updates on upcoming BSMB meetings and related meetings. We are also active before meetings, promoting upcoming speakers, and during the meetings with information and discussion. Please feel free to tweet interesting research and conference highlights. Comments and suggestions are welcome. To follow, search @BSMB1 on twitter or BSMB on facebook. Spread the word and invite visits.

Sharing buttons are installed at the bottom of every BSMB web page for Facebook, Twitter, Linked-in, Google+ page, or even via email.



*Jade Gumbs, Andrew Hellewell
& Graham Riley*

Welcome to New Members!

(Full members since JAN 2017)

Claire Deligne
Jamie Thompson
David Stephens
Rachel Lennon
Valentina Gifford
Oliver Pearce
Ralf Richter
Danielle O'Loughlin
Giulia Sivelli
Rens Groot
Oksana Kehoe
Addolorata Pisconti
Tiago Justo
Giovanna Nalesso
Christine Chuang
Greg Hammond
Sadaf Ashraf
Sarah McNeilly
Catherine Sharpe
Adam Janvier
Evelyn Funjika
Charlotte Hulme
Adam Pudelko
Mukti Singh
David Bardell

New BSMB committee member



George Bou-Gharios is Professor of Matrix Biology in the Department of

Musculoskeletal Biology, at the Institute of Ageing and Chronic Disease, University of Liverpool.

George is one of the most enthusiastic matrix biologists around! His group is particularly interested in the regulation of matrix molecules that maintain connective tissue homeostasis. Investigating key enhancer sequences that regulate embryonic and adult matrix expression, George's lab can target connective tissues in vivo, in a cell-specific manner, enabling them to use pre-clinical models to study genetic gain and loss of function revealing the mechanism(s) that underlie some of the major connective tissue pathologies.

Join the committee! Student and Post doc rep posts open...

We are seeking one Student representative and one Post doc representative to join the BSMB committee. Any current graduate student or post doc member in good standing is eligible. These posts represent the student and post doc communities within the BSMB, and ensure that the views and interests of the younger members of the society are heard. Reps are responsible for maintaining the activity of the BSMB on social media, including facebook and twitter. It is expected that reps will take office at the London meeting in September 2017, and that reps should be able to attend most committee meetings during their term. Posts will be for 2 years in the first instance. The first qualified applicant to apply for either post will be awarded the position.

To apply: email your CV and a brief letter of support from your supervisor to Kim Midwood:

kim.midwood@kennedy.ox.ac.uk

BSMB Bursaries and Awards

BSMB bursaries are available to graduate student and post-doctoral researchers to participate in 2017-18 meetings. There have been some changes this year to encourage early career BSMB members to attend meetings relevant to matrix biology that are highlighted below:

- For bursaries to attend BSMB annual meetings, the requisite time as a BSMB member has been shortened from the current 122 days to **84 days** (to the first day of the meeting). The maximum amount of a bursary remains at £250.
- For “other meetings” outside the UK with a Matrix Biology theme, the bursary amount has been increased from £300 to **£400**. The qualifying membership period remains as 1 year. However, we have removed the four application deadlines and will consider applications for these awards **on a rolling basis** all year round.
- For MBE/ASMB meetings, the qualifying membership period remains as 6 months. The maximum bursary remains at £500 for MBE and £600 for ASMB.
- Please note: To be eligible for a bursary to attend MBE/ASMB meetings or “other meetings”, the applicant must **have attended at least one BSMB annual meeting**.
- Last but not least, as you know, BSMB and the Wellcome Centre for Cell-Matrix Research (University of Manchester) are co-hosting the MBE 2018 meeting (21-

24th July) in Manchester. We are planning to implement a reasonably large number of bursaries to encourage as many early career BSMB members as possible to participate. Please make sure that you (or your group members if you are a PI) will be eligible to apply.

We look forward to receiving many applications for the above bursaries.

Qing Jun Meng

Chair of the BSMB Bursary Committee

qing-jun.meng@manchester.ac.uk

Bursaries awarded

(Jan – June 2017)

BSMB Spring 2017

Reporter: Shaun Fell (Aston University)

Other Bursaries

Reporters: Pia Pernille Sogaard (University of Oxford), Michal Dudek (University of Manchester) and Chloe Yeung (Inst. Sports Med, Copenhagen). (The 6th FEBS Advanced lecture course: "Matrix Pathobiology, Signalling and Molecular Targets 2017" in Spetses, Greece 25th-30th May)

Presenter: Ewa Mularczyk (University of Manchester). (GRC Elastin, Elastic Fibers & Microfibrils, 2017).

Presenters: Afshan Dean (University of Glasgow) and Lauren Fleming (University of Glasgow). (GRC Collagen 2017).

Presenters: Marta Godinho (Queen Mary University London) and Daniel Rowson (Queen Mary University London). (Summer Biomechanics, Bioengineering and Biotransport Conference. Tucson, Arizona, June 21 – 24, 2017).

BSMB Young Investigator Award, 2017

The BSMB Young Investigator Award committee is now seeking nominations for the 2017 award, and I strongly encourage all of our junior members to put themselves forward. Applications will be considered from any member aged 35 or under at the time of application.

This prestigious prize is worth £1000 to a worthy winner, as well as the opportunity to present their work at the September meeting in London.

Applicants should provide copies of one or more papers (either a single substantial paper, or a coherent body of work) along with their CV and a short document outlining their contribution to the work and its importance in the field. A supporting statement from their supervisor, line manager or mentor is optional. All applications should be sent to me (Graham Riley), the Chair of the BSMB YIA committee, and they will be reviewed by a sub-committee drawn from the current BSMB committee.

Full application rules and eligibility requirements are available on the BSMB website: <http://www.bsmb.ac.uk/awards-index/young-investigator-award/>

The closing date for applications is July 31st, and all applicants should be available to present their work at the September meeting, for which their travel and meeting expenses will be paid.

Graham Riley
Chair, BSMB Young Investigator Award committee

'Good news'

Reduced rate registration: to qualify for the fantastically low member rates for BMSB meeting registration, you must have been a member for 84 days (12 weeks) from joining before the first day of the meeting. This time period has been shortened from the previous 122 days. Join now to take advantage for the Autumn 2017 meeting!!

In Print: Meeting Reports and Abstracts from the Cardiff Autumn 2016 meeting are now in print in the International Journal of Experimental Pathology.

In Press: Meeting Reports and Abstracts from the Oxford Spring 2017 meeting will soon appear in the International Journal of Experimental Pathology.

To share good news contact *Kim Midwood*.

International Society for Matrix Biology News

All matrix biologists are encouraged to consider joining the International Society for Matrix Biology. ISMB particularly supports career development for the next generation of matrix biologists: ISMB members who are graduate students or postdocs up to 5 years after Ph.D. may apply for generous international travel bursaries to attend major matrix biology meetings around the world. ISMB offers the biannual Rupert Timpl career recognition award for outstanding young investigators. The ISMB newsletter and website support networking and career development by providing regular updates on global matrix biology news and events. Immediate news and job vacancies are featured in ISMB social media updates ([Twitter](#), [@IntSocMatBio](#) and [facebook](#), www.facebook.com/IntSocMatBio/);

there is an ongoing project to coordinate with the social media of national matrix biology Societies.

The goals of ISMB are to promote matrix biology on a global scale by supporting major international matrix biology meetings, providing career recognition and travel awards, and facilitate international exchange of news in matrix biology through the ISMB newsletter and website. ISMB awards the Distinguished Investigator award to established researchers for lifetime achievements in matrix biology and a variety of other membership benefits.

The annual membership fee for junior researchers (graduate students and postdocs up to 5 years after the Ph.D.) is 20 Euros. To join or find out more, visit <http://ismb.org>

Jo Adams, University of Bristol.



Upcoming BSMB Meetings

BSMB Autumn 2017 Meeting 'Translating the Matrix'

*Queen Mary, University of London
4th and 5th of September 2017*

Organised by James Whiteford

The BSMB Autumn Meeting will be held at Queen Mary University of London on the 4th and 5th of September 2017, at the Mile End campus and its theme is 'Translating the Matrix'.

The conference will include 5 sessions; **Matrix Pharmacology, Drug delivery, Novel matrix therapeutic targets, a Translational workshop** (featuring representatives from the Funding bodies and Pharma) and the traditional **Open Session**. The meeting is being supported by The British Journal of Pharmacology with the aim of generating a themed issue relating to the ECM, translational Medicine and Pharmacology

Programme:

Monday 4th September 2017

Session 1: Pharmacological Targets in the Matrix

Nunzio Bottini (UC San Diego, USA)

Kim Midwood (University of Oxford, UK)

Session 2: Matrix Pharmacology (1)

Giulia De Rossi (Queen Mary University of London, UK)

John Marshall (Queen Mary University of London, UK)

Young Investigator Award: The John Scott Lecture

Tuesday September 5th 2017

Session 3: Matrix Pharmacology (2)

Jessica Bertrand (University Hospital
Magdeburg, Germany)

Tero Järvinen (University of Tampere,
Finland)

Session 4: Open session for early career researchers Short talks selected from submitted abstracts to feature hot topics from any area of matrix biology.

Session 5: TRANSLATIONAL WORKSHOP

INVITED SPEAKERS from funding bodies including the Wellcome Trust and MRC, and from Industry advising on IP, translational schemes and how to develop our discoveries towards the clinic.

Social events

Wine Reception & Poster Viewing: Reception with posters on Monday evening.

Conference dinner: will be held on the Monday evening and will cost £40.00 (£30.00 for students).

Bursaries

Presenter and reporter bursaries will be available for eligible BSMB members: please see BSMB website for details (<http://www.bsmb.ac.uk/bursaries-page/>) and email your applications to Qing-Jun Meng (qing-jun.meng@manchester.ac.uk) by 1st of August 2017. Successful applicants will be notified by 4th August 2017.

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded for oral and poster presentations.

Important deadlines

Abstract submission: 18th August 2017.

Early bird registration ends: 4th August 2017.

Registration closes: 25th August 2017.

Registration fees

BSMB members £140

BSMB student members £110

Non-members £180

Student non-members £140

Please note that these are early-bird fees, which will increase by £50 on 5th August 2017.

Accommodation

Accommodation for the Monday night is available on the Mile End campus priced at £60.00. If you require accommodation for nights other than Monday 4th September, please contact j.whiteford@qmul.ac.uk.

For further information and to register, please visit <http://www.bsmb.ac.uk/bsmb-autumn-meeting-2017/>.

British Journal of Pharmacology

'Matrix Biology' themed issue.

We have secured sponsorship from the British Journal of Pharmacology for this Autumn Conference. As part of this arrangement the journal will produce a 'Matrix Biology' themed issue. This will include both Reviews and Research articles and the call for these will open in late August. The reason for this is that the call will only remain open for 6 months and we are trying to give you as potential contributors as much notice as possible to think about and prepare submissions. The journal has an impact factor of 5.2 and the hope is that by promoting our research to a slightly different readership we will raise the profile of our research and Matrix Biology as a whole. If you have an interest or an idea for an article please contact j.whiteford@qmul.ac.uk.

Matrix Biology Europe 2018 **Manchester July 2018**

The BSMB is organising the next Matrix Biology Europe (Formerly FECTS) conference together with the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell-Matrix Research in Manchester just over a year from now (21-24 July, 2018). This meeting is held every two years on behalf of all the European Matrix Biology Societies and the Manchester meeting will celebrate 50 years of such conferences, the first being held in Cambridge in 1968.

Plans are now well under way. The meeting will be hosted at the University of Manchester with premium and budget bed and breakfast accommodation nearby. We have an outstanding list of confirmed speakers (see the conference advertisement below) and a broad range of workshops including “Rhythms and Matrix Dynamics”; “Stem Cells and Matrix Engineering”; “ECM Microenvironment, Adhesion and Cell Fate”; “Pathobiology and Therapeutics to Fibrosis”; “Fibrillar/Matricellular Signalling”; “The Immunology/Matrix Interface”; “Mechanisms of Matrix Disease”.

Workshops will include at least 4 slots for oral communications selected from abstracts so there are lots of opportunities for BSMB members to present their work. The meeting will also include the Dick Heinegard Award for young investigators across Europe. Each Matrix Biology Society selects their own entrant and the finalists present their talks in a single session of the conference and the winner is judged by an international committee. The BSMB will soon announce the competition to select its Dick Heinegard Young Investigator entrant for MBE2018 and the BSMB representative will receive a full bursary covering all the costs of attending MBE2018.

The conference dinner has been booked at Manchester United in a venue overlooking the Old Trafford pitch. There will also be an opportunity to take the Stadium Tour prior to the dinner. The accommodations are strategically placed to allow delegates easy access to enjoy the attractions of the City Centre for dinner in the evening or for the renowned nightlife! The conference website (<http://www.confercare.manchester.ac.uk/events/mbe2018/>) is established and further information will appear regularly over the next weeks.

MBE2018 will be the only BSMB meeting held in 2018 (i.e. there will be no regular Spring or Autumn meeting) so please put the date in your diary and we hope to welcome you to Manchester in July 2018.

Ray Boot-Handford & Qing-Jun Meng **Local Organising Committee**



BSMB Spring 2019 Meeting **Liverpool University** **April 8-9th 2019**

Stroma, Niche, Repair

Organised by George Bou Gharios
This will be a joint meeting held together
with Matrix Biology Ireland.

Other upcoming events

Gordon Research Conference Elastin, Elastic Fibers, and Microfibrils

July 30 – August 4 2017

University of New England, Maine, USA



Matrix Biology Ireland 2017 Meeting

November 30 - December 1

Trinity College Dublin, University of Ireland
Dublin, Ireland



Meeting reports

BSMB Spring 2017 Meeting Oxford University

Matrix proteoglycans – active participants in cell-ECM communication

Organised by Linda Troeberg

Report by: Shaun Fell **(Aston University, UK)**

The University of Oxford hosted the BSMB Spring meeting on the 3rd and 4th of April 2017. The meeting welcomed speakers from across the world, with strong support from the Nordics in preparation for the Nordic Proteoglycan Workshop on the 5th April, also hosted at the University of Oxford. The meeting was organised by Linda Troeberg and ran faultlessly from beginning to end with lots of exciting proteoglycan research throughout.

The sun was shining in Oxford for the opening session discussing matrix proteoglycans in health and disease. The first talk of the meeting by Ralph Sanderson (Alabama, USA) discussed the role of heparanase in exosome secretion and its involvement in chemoresistance. Some very exciting data showed that heparanase can be transferred to myeloma cells in 'chemoexosomes' and promote chemoresistance. The second talk of the session by Dada Pisconti (Liverpool, UK) introduced the regulation of satellite cell differentiation by heparan sulfate sulfation levels. This was followed by Mattias Belting (Lund, Sweden) who has uncovered that CAIX, a part-time heparan sulfate, internalisation is regulated by glycosaminoglycan modification via caveolin-1 association. The first session was closed by

John Whitelock (New South Wales, Australia) and interestingly highlighted that removal of glycosaminoglycan chains increases cell adhesion in endothelial and vascular smooth muscle cells. It was then time to sharpen our minds with coffee and biscuits before studying the fascinating research that was displayed on posters.

The second session was opened by Vera Gorbunova (Rochester, USA) with a delightfully attractive image of a naked mole rat before demonstrating that naked mole rats have elevated high molecular weight hyaluronan that coincides with decreased susceptibility to malignant transformation. The next talk by Jessica Kwok (Leeds, UK) showed that sulfate manipulation in the brain could impact both memory and learning. Staying with the brain, Dulce Papy-Garcia (Paris, France) showed that Alzheimer's disease is accompanied by intracellular heparan sulfate accumulation in the hippocampus.



John Couchman then presented Cay Kielty with the 2017 Fell-Muir award for the outstanding contribution that Cay has made to matrix biology research. The Fell-Muir award lecture gave an insight into the fascinating research on fibrillin microfibrils that Cay has undertaken throughout her career. The first day of the conference

finished with a wine reception and poster session before a short walk to the dining room for the evening meal and plenty of well-deserved wine.

The second day of the conference began with Jeremy Turnbull (Liverpool, UK) opening our eyes to the possibilities of targeting proteoglycans in disease. Rebecca Miller (Oxford, UK) then showed data from ion mobility mass spectrometry on the interaction between MCP-1 and glycosaminoglycans. Before the morning break, Toin van Kuppevelt (Radboud UMC, Netherlands) interestingly demonstrating that glycosaminoglycans can be sequenced by using biorthogonal probes to label chondroitin sulfates.

Following a cup of tea and a final chance to study the posters, the young investigators and post-docs took to the stage. The first talk by Sharon Owen (Keele, UK) raised considerable concern about the purity of reagents – demonstrating for example that commercial biglycan contained aggrecan and many other proteoglycans, possibly at even higher quantities than biglycan itself. A talk from Heba Ismail (Oxford, UK) showed the importance of aggrecan, IL-1 and LRP1 regulation in osteoarthritis. Bola Ajekigbe (Newcastle, UK) continued the osteoarthritis theme with the identification and targeting of long non-coding RNAs.



The penultimate talk of this session by Karen Onions (Bristol, UK) showed glycoalyx damage in diabetic models can lead to uncontrolled glomerulus permeability. Thomas Cox (Sydney, Australia) gave the final talk of the session with some excellent images of collagen IV following *in situ* decellularisation for the study of the ECM role in cancer and metastasis.



The final session began with a talk on the interactions between proteoglycans and chemokines by Andreas Kungl (Graz, Austria). Some exciting research showed that GAGbodiesTM could be the next potential therapeutic to target the interaction between proteoglycans and chemokines in cancer. Anthony Day (Manchester, UK) then demonstrated an important role for TSG-6 as a glycosaminoglycan-binding protein that can prevent heparan-sulfate binding to CXCL8. The penultimate talk of the conference by Ralf Richter (Leeds, UK) showed that chemokine interactions with heparan sulfates can increase myoblast attachment and spreading. Last but not least Dudley Strickland (Maryland, USA) delivered the final talk of the meeting with a fascinating presentation on LRP1 acting as a negative regulator of fibrotic markers in the vascular matrix.

Prize winners pictured: Karen Onions, Bristol (Oral presentation), Laura Ferreras,

Newcastle and Andreas Romaine, Oslo, Norway (Poster presentations).



The BSMB Spring Meeting was a great success for matrix proteoglycan research and many thanks go to Linda Troeberg for her commitment to attract researchers from across the world to share their research.

Nordic Proteoglycan Workshop **5th April 2017, Oxford University**

Following the BSMB spring meeting on matrix proteoglycans, the Nordic Proteoglycan Workshop was held at Oxford University and included a mix of BSMB and Nordic delegates. This offered a great opportunity for networking with international colleagues and collaborations to be developed during a proteoglycan-filled day.

The workshop was opened by James Whiteford (London, UK) on the role of syndecan ectodomains in angiogenesis. This was followed by Marion Kusche-Gullberg

(Bergen, Norway) showing the requirement of the exostosin family for heparan sulfate chain elongation, and to follow the theme of heparan sulfate biosynthesis, Jin-Ping Li (Uppsala, Sweden) showed that glucuronyl C5 epimerase overexpression can increase heparan sulfate chain length. Cecilia Österholm (Stockholm, Sweden) closed the morning session with an interesting talk on heparanase and bone formation and breakdown.

The next session was opened by Sabrina Bech Mathieson (Oslo, Norway) on syndecans in cardiac remodelling and fibrosis. This was followed by a talk that moved to lung fibrosis by Oskar Hallgren (Lund, Sweden) on the altered structure of heparan sulfates in idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. The next talks from Tabea Dierker (Uppsala, Sweden) and Emil Tykesson (Lund, Sweden) introduced chondroitin sulfates before the closing of the session and an interval for lunch.

Following an enjoyable lunch, Sissel Beate Rønning (Oslo, Norway) showed the importance of syndecan-4 in skeletal muscle. Sticking with syndecan-4, Trine Reine (Oslo, Norway) demonstrated the involvement of shedding in wound healing, and Andreas Romaine (Oslo, Norway) showed the critical role that it plays in cardiac remodelling.

The final session began with a fascinating talk by Mona Pedersen (Oslo, Norway) on the wound healing properties of an eggshell membrane. The penultimate talk of the workshop was delivered by Gunnar Pejler (Uppsala, Sweden) and introduced an intracellular proteoglycan, serglycin. Linda Troeberg (Oxford, UK), organiser of the BSMB Spring Meeting, closed the final session of the workshop with a fascinating talk on the role of heparan sulfates in osteoarthritis.

Current BSMB Committee

Chairman, Prof. John Couchman
University of Copenhagen;
john.couchman@bric.ku.dk

Honorary Secretary, Prof. Kim Midwood
University of Oxford;
kim.midwood@kennedy.ox.ac.uk

Honorary Treasurer, Dr. Tom Van Agtmael
University of Glasgow;
tom.vanagtmael@glasgow.ac.uk

Elected Members:
Dr. Qing-Jun Meng
Manchester University;
Qing-Jun.Meng@manchester.ac.uk

Dr James Whiteford
QMUL, London;
j.whiteford@qmul.ac.uk

Prof. George Bou-Gharios
University of Liverpool;
G.Bou-Gharios@liverpool.ac.uk

Co-opted Members:
Prof. Jo C. Adams
University of Bristol;
jo.adams@bristol.ac.uk

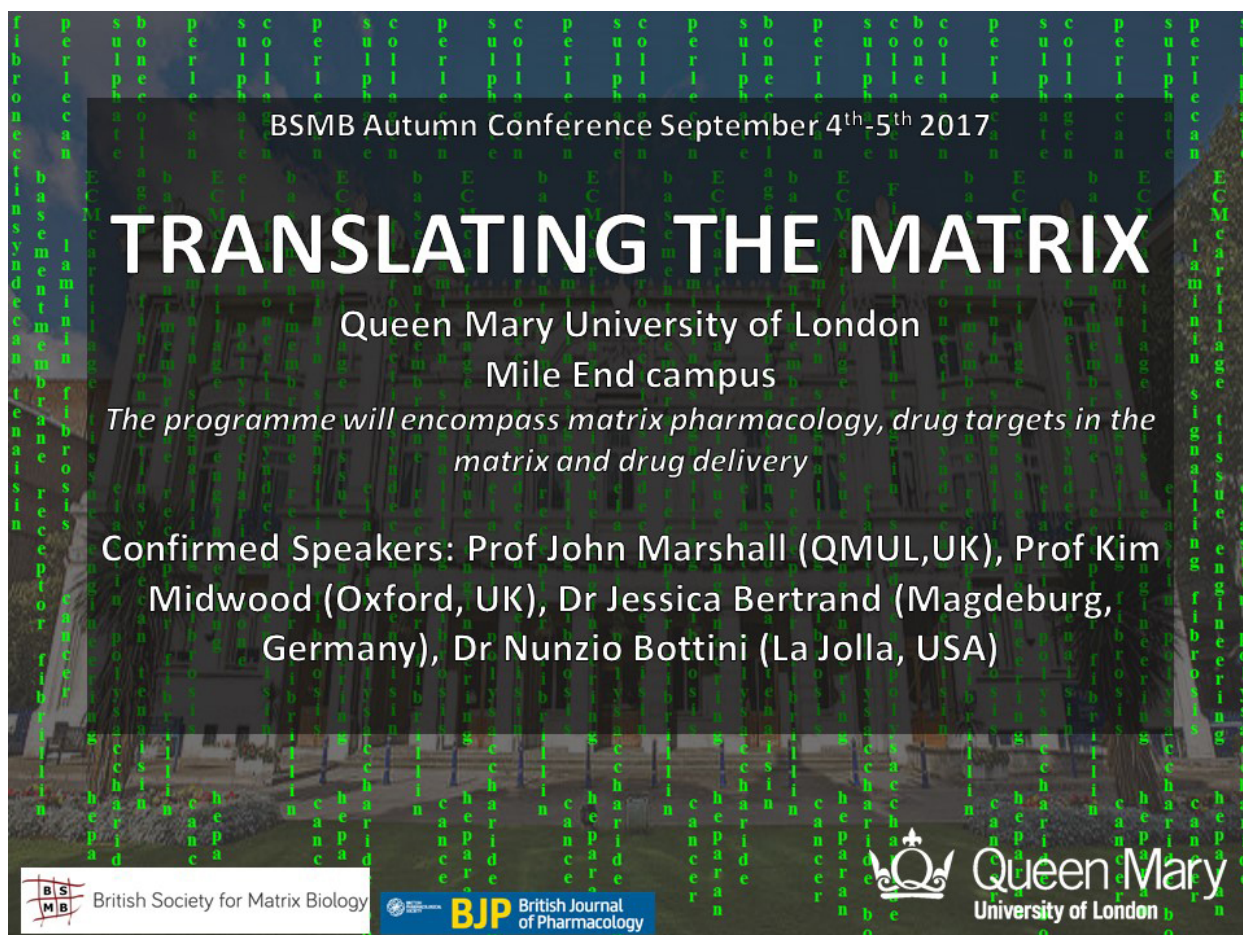
Dr. Graham Riley
University of East Anglia;
graham.riley@uea.ac.uk

Jade Gumbs
Student rep, University of Liverpool;
J.Gumbs@Liverpool.ac.uk

Dr Andrew Hellewell
Post Doc Rep, University of Bristol;
Andrew.Hellewell@Bristol.ac.uk

Prof. Ray Boot-Handford
University of Manchester;
ray.boot-handford@manchester.ac.uk

SEE YOU IN LONDON IN SEPTEMBER 2017!




BSMB Autumn Conference September 4th-5th 2017


TRANSLATING THE MATRIX


Queen Mary University of London
Mile End campus

The programme will encompass matrix pharmacology, drug targets in the matrix and drug delivery

Confirmed Speakers: Prof John Marshall (QMUL, UK), Prof Kim Midwood (Oxford, UK), Dr Jessica Bertrand (Magdeburg, Germany), Dr Nunzio Bottini (La Jolla, USA)

 British Society for Matrix Biology

 **BJP** British Journal of Pharmacology

 **Queen Mary**
University of London

REGISTER NOW!