A Note from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

Last month during a trip to Australia, WIPO Director General, Francis Gurry, met with WIPO Re:Search Members at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI). Francis discussed WIPO Re:Search and ideas were shared of how regional groups could become more actively engaged in the Consortium.

This month's Snapshot includes a new section, "Funding Announcement", which is pulled from BVGH's FundFinder program. This section will highlight a new funding opportunity relevant to WIPO Re:Search Members and targeting neglected disease R&D. I hope this section is helpful to our Members who are constantly searching for new funding to support their important NTD programs. Please share your feedback with BVGH on the Snapshot's content as well as any content ideas you may have.

Roopa Ramamoorthi will be representing WIPO Re:Search and BVGH at the upcoming "Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) 2015 Annual Meeting". If you will be attending the conference, plan to meet with Roopa and view the poster she will present.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
President, BVGH
Special Announcement: WIPO Director General's Meeting with Members

Last month, WIPO Director General, Dr. Francis Gurry, met with scientists and administrators from three Australian WIPO Re:Search Members: the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI), Murdoch Childrens Research Institute (MCRI), and Eskitis Institute at Griffiths University, as well as IP Australia. During the event, which was held at WEHI, Francis spoke about WIPO Re:Search, encouraged Member scientists to participate in collaborative research projects, and explored ideas of how Australian Members could be more engaged. By day's end, attendees agreed that their institutes could play a leadership role in strengthening the Asian-Pacific region's participation in WIPO Re:Search.
WIPO Re:Search Statistics

To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click here.

Click here to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

An agreement between the Centre Pasteur du Cameroun and PATH was recently finalized. In the first stage of this collaboration, Paul LaBarre, Senior Technical Officer, PATH, will share PATH's optimized non-instrumented nucleic acid amplification (NINA) platform with Dr. Lawrence Ayong, Head, Malaria Research Group, Centre Pasteur du Cameroun. Lawrence will assess the compatibility of this novel technology with a loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) assay for Plasmodium gametocyte carriage that he recently developed.

Tom Bombelles, Head, Global Health, and Anatole Krattiger, Director, Global Challenges Division, WIPO, represented WIPO Re:Search and presented the Consortium's value to companies at the "World Pharma Licensing Congress", which was held at the London Stock Exchange last month. Also in attendance were representatives from WIPO Re:Search Sponsor Members, Pfizer, Merck KGaA, and Novartis.

Partnership Hub Central

Last year, a graduate student from the laboratory of Dr. Wellington Oyibo, Associate Professor, College of Medicine, University of Lagos, spent two months at Stanford University, working with Dr. Jesse Waggoner, Instructor of Medicine, and Dr. Benjamin Pinsky, Assistant Professor of Pathology and Medicine, to identify the common causes of febrile illness in Lagos, Nigeria. These data were then applied towards the development of a customized, multiplexed PCR-based diagnostic specific to the most common
As part of this continuing collaboration, Wellington and Roopa Ramamoorthi recently visited Ben's lab. During the visit, Ben and Wellington discussed their ideas on moving the collaboration forward and discussed publishing their results. The two also considered jointly applying for research grants.

Funding Announcement

Research on the vulnerability of preventive chemotherapy of helminth infections to emergence of drug resistance:
quantitation of the variability of parasite/host response to drugs
This funding award is accepting proposals for the statistical analysis of parasite concentrations/numbers from individuals before and
Highlighted Contributions

Featured this month is a contribution submitted by McGill University to the WIPO Re:Search Database.

Rapid Malaria Detection Diagnostic (ID: 1981)
This technology is a unique system for detecting *Plasmodium* infection. The approach relies on the detection of a strong third harmonic signal generated when hemozoin is excited with ultra-short laser pulses centered at approximately 1200 nm. The system is able to detect very low numbers of infected red blood cells (10 attomolar [aM]) and requires minimal sample preparation. The technology would be an improvement over the existing clinical method of measuring parasitemia levels using giemsa stains of blood smears. Click here for more information about this technology.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact Roopa Ramamoorthi or Ujwal Sheth.

WIPO Re:Search in the News

During an interview with BW | BusinessWorld, WIPO Director General, Dr. Francis Gurry, described WIPO Re:Search as a demonstration of how IP creates a balance between innovation and societal needs.

The novel antiviral of Seattle-based WIPO Re:Search Member, Kineta, was the topic of a recent news video.

WIPO issued a press release announcing BVGH's 2014 Partnership Hub Report. WIPO Director General, Francis Gurry stated "we are very pleased with the level of engagement and interest in WIPO Re:Search by the various providers and users. We are hopeful that these positive results will continue to grow in the coming years and lead to outcomes to alleviate the huge burden of neglected tropical diseases on already vulnerable populations."

Upcoming Global Health Events

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<td>Apr. 25-29</td>
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<td>May 12-17</td>
<td>Keystone Symposium - &quot;The Arthropod Vector: The Controller of Transmission&quot;</td>
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Are you attending a global health event?
Do you have a Research Request to highlight in the Snapshot?

We want to hear from you! Please send feedback and suggestions via email.

WIPO Re:Search Pharmaceutical Members

*known as EMD in the US and Canada
**known as Merck in the US and Canada

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