October 2015

**Letter from Jennifer**

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Fourth WIPO Re:Search Annual Meeting on October 29th. WIPO will be hosting the meeting at their headquarters in Geneva. If you are interested in attending, please see details below and contact Tom Bombelles for more information.

Last week the 2015 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded to Dr. William Campbell, Dr. Satoshi Ōmura, and Dr. Youyou Tu for their research and contributions to the development of novel therapies for filarial diseases (avermectin) and malaria (artemisinin). This is extremely exciting news and shines a light on the entire neglected infectious disease community, including the work of the WIPO Re:Search consortium. I want to thank all of you for your dedication to developing safe, effective, and affordable products for all neglected tropical diseases.

BVGH will be launching the 2014-2015 **WIPO Re:Search Partnership Storybook** at the Annual Meeting. The Storybook highlights over 20 WIPO Re:Search partnerships and features the impact we are having on African research organizations. Keep an eye out for an electronic copy over the coming weeks.

I am pleased to welcome **Takeda Pharmaceutical Company** to WIPO Re:Search. Takeda is the ninth leading biopharmaceutical company to join the Consortium and brings important new contributions to share with our Members.

The American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Annual Meeting and Exposition will open with a session titled,
“Global Health: Tackling the Unmet Medical Needs”. I will present a plenary talk and feature the work we are doing in WIPO Re:Search. Paddy Shivanand will be attending the AAPS meeting with me so please reach out to either of us if you would like to schedule a meeting.

Ujwal Sheth will be attending this year’s American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Contact Ujwal if you are attending and would like to meet.

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

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**Special Reminder - Member Surveys**

If you haven’t completed a WIPO Re:Search Member survey, there is still time. Please click [here](#) to take the User & Provider Member survey and [here](#) to take the Supporter survey.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Katy Graef.

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**Special Announcement**

WIPO will be hosting the 2015 WIPO Re:Search Annual Meeting* at its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland on October 29th. Dr. Peter Hotez, President, Sabin Vaccine Institute, will be giving the meeting’s keynote presentation.

This year’s Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the WIPO/WTO/WHO Workshop of Patentability Criteria (October 27th) and the WHO/WIPO/WTO Triilateral Symposium (October 28th).

*Please note that Annual Meeting attendance is limited to WIPO Re:Search Members.

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**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.

![WIPO Re:Search collaborations by expected product]

**Cornerstones of Collaboration**

Eisai has agreed to provide Dr. Jim McKerrow, Dean, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dr. Larissa Podust, Associate Professor, and Dr. Jair Siqueira-Neto, Assistant Adjunct Professor, University of California, San Diego (UCSD), with a squalene synthase inhibitor. Jim and Jair will assess the effect of the inhibitor – either alone or in combination with another inhibitor – against *T. cruzi* and *Leishmania*.

**New Member Announcement**

We are pleased to announce that [Takeda Pharmaceutical Company](#) has joined WIPO Re:Search.
Takeda Pharmaceutical Company joined WIPO Re:Search on August 19, 2015. Takeda was founded in 1781 and is headquartered in Osaka, Japan. With its mission to "strive towards better health for people worldwide through leading innovation in medicine," Takeda is an ideal WIPO Re:Search Member.

Takeda contributes to global health through the Takeda Initiative – a ten-year grant program supporting the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria to build healthcare capacity in Africa. Takeda is developing a tetravalent dengue fever vaccine, which is in Phase II clinical trials, and participates in the Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT Fund).

Takeda is considering possible cooperation ideas including provision of compound libraries, consultation and support, hands-on research activities, manufacturing technology, data, and know-how that may fit WIPO Re:Search purposes. Based on the needs of WIPO Re:Search Members, Takeda and BVGH are currently working together to evaluate Takeda’s assets and identify potential WIPO Re:Search Database contributions.

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**Partnership Hub Central**

Jennifer Dent attended the Wellbeing for All: Innovation for Society’s Biggest Health Challenges meeting organized by Novartis. The event, which officially launched the Novartis Access Initiative, coincided with the UN General Assembly and the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Jennifer met with individuals from Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV), the Access to Medicine Foundation, PATH, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Novartis during the meeting.

WIPO organized a WIPO Re:Search briefing to WIPO Member States during the 55th Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO. The briefing event featured remarks from Prof. Fidelis Cho-Ngwa, Head, ANDI Centre of Excellence for Onchocerciasis Drug Research, University of Buea; Mr. Martin Bernhardt, Vice President, International Institutions, Sanofi; and Mr. Simon Holt, Global Head Public Policy, Novartis.
Funding Announcement

**Fogarty Emerging Global Leader Award**
The purpose of the Fogarty Emerging Global Leader Award is to provide research support and protected time to a research scientist from a low- or middle-income country (LMIC) with a junior faculty position at an LMIC academic or research institution. This intensive, mentored research career development experience is expected to lead to an independently funded research career. LMIC scientists from any health related discipline that propose career development activities and a research project that is
relevant to the health priorities of their country is invited to apply.

**Funding amount:** Up to $105,000 USD per year, for a maximum of five years  
**Funder:** US National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
**Deadline:** December 16, 2015  
**Eligibility:** Applicant must be an LMIC citizen and have held an academic junior faculty position or research scientist appointment at an LMIC academic or research institution for at least one year.

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**Member Spotlight**

The [United States Patents & Trademark Office (USPTO)](https://www.uspto.gov) is accepting applications for its [Patents for Humanity](https://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/pqt/spt/PH/) prize. This competition awards innovators that use their patented technologies to address global challenges in five areas, including medicine. Applicants will be judged on one of two sets of criteria: humanitarian research – awarded to organizations that increase the availability of their technology to others performing humanitarian research – or humanitarian use.

Winners receive recognition at a public awards ceremony and a certificate to accelerate certain matters before the USPTO. Sanofi and Novartis were awarded this year’s prize for medicine. Applications for the 2016 Patents for Humanity are due by December 4, 2015.

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**Highlighted Contributions**

Featured this month is a contribution submitted by [Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi)](https://www.dndi.org) to the [WIPO Re:Search Database](https://www.wipo.int/research/en/).

**Antiprotozoal activity profiling of approved drugs: a starting point toward drug repositioning (ID: 3021)**

DNDi has assembled data from screens of 100 registered drugs against *Leishmania donovani*, *Trypanosoma brucei rhodesiense*, *Plasmodium falciparum*, and *Trypanosoma cruzi*. These data have been made freely available to third parties for use anywhere in the world.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact [Roopa Ramamoorthy](mailto:roopa.ramamoorthy@wipo.int) or [Ujwal Sheth](mailto:ujwal.sheth@wipo.int).

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**WIPO Re:Search In the News**

WIPO and BVGH co-authored a [Global Challenges Brief](https://www.wipo.int/research/en/innovation-for-development/) that summarized the structure of WIPO Re:Search and described a selection of WIPO Re:Search collaborations.
WIPO Re:Search was featured in a Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) BIOTechNow blog about the 2015 International Day of Charity. Click here to read the post.

The activities and outputs of WIPO Re:Search were noted in the 2015 Report of the Director General to the WIPO Assemblies.

### Upcoming Global Health Events

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<td>American Society of Tropical Medicine &amp; Hygiene 64th Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 24-28</td>
<td>Keystone Symposium: “Drug Discovery for Parasitic Diseases”</td>
<td>Tahoe City, CA</td>
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*Known as EMD in the US and Canada | **Known as Merck in the US and Canada*

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