Letter from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members,

Autumn is fast approaching and BVGH is busy making arrangements for the season’s packed agenda. We are preparing for our participation in the American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) 64th Annual Meeting, the 2015 American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Annual Meeting and Exposition – where I will be giving the plenary lecture in the [opening global health session](#) – and the 2015 WIPO Re:Search Annual Meeting. If you will be attending any of these meetings, please reach out to us and schedule a time to meet and discuss your research and partnering interests.

Last month we were pleased to hear the US FDA’s decision to add Chagas disease and neurocysticercosis to the list of PRV-eligible diseases. These diseases are included in WIPO Re:Search. On August 19th AbbVie purchased a PRV for over $350 million from United Therapeutics Corporation – demonstrating the significant value these vouchers can provide to NTD product development organizations.

I am pleased to welcome our newest Supporter Member, [Biblioteca Alexandrina](#), to WIPO Re:Search.

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**

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) added Chagas disease and neurocysticercosis to the list of designated tropical diseases whose product applications may result in the award of a priority review voucher (PRV). Currently, there are no products available that effectively treat either of these devastating diseases. This important decision recognizes the need to fill product development pipelines for Chagas disease and neurocysticercosis. Click [here](#) to learn more about the FDA’s ruling.

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**WIPO Re:Search Statistics**

![Agreements and Members](image)

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.

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**Cornerstones of Collaboration**
GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) will provide Dr. Stênio Fragoso, Head, Laboratory of Trypanosomatid Molecular Biology, Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz), with a targeted set of compounds from its Tres Cantos Anti-Kinetoplastid Set (TCAKS). Stênio will be assessing the effects of these compounds on *T. cruzi*.

Dr. Alyssa Barry, Laboratory Head, Population Health and Immunity Division, Walter + Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI) will determine the sequence variation of a *P. falciparum* red blood cell-binding protein within a set of malaria patient samples provided by Dr. Aida Badiane, Assistant Professor, Laboratory of Parasitology-Mycology, Cheikh Anta Diop University. Aida and Alyssa will determine whether there is a correlation between the malaria patients’ immune responses and the red blood cell-binding protein sequences.

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**Partnership Hub Central**

Anatole Krattiger, WIPO, and Katy Graef, BVGH, presented an overview of WIPO Re:Search at the Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED) 2015 Global Forum on Research and Innovation for Health. The WIPO Re:Search special session’s opening remarks were delivered by Andrew Hodges, First Secretary – Economic, Australian Embassy to the Philippines. During the 2015 Forum, Anatole and Katy discussed WIPO Re:Search with representatives from several South East Asian research institutes.

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**BVGH FundFinder Featured Funding Announcement**

[Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships](#)
Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships provide opportunities to people from some developing countries to study at selected education institutions outside Australia. The purpose of the scholarships is for people to gain knowledge and skills which will help the development of their home country. Currently, scholarships are offered to people from the Pacific to study at Pacific tertiary institutions in Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji, Samoa, and New Caledonia.

**Funding amount:** entitlements cover a return airfare from your home country to the country of study, academic and other compulsory fees, an establishment allowance, and a living allowance

**Funder:** Australian Government - Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**Deadline:** deadlines vary by country

**Eligibility:** restricted to individuals from Pacific countries

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**Member Spotlight**

Researchers from the University of British Columbia (UBC) and the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH) published the results of their collaboration. Through this collaboration, catalyzed by WIPO Re:Search, the researchers evaluated a set of avermectins for their potential use as a Buruli ulcer therapy. Click [here](#) to read the paper.

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**Highlighted Contributions**

Featured this month are two contributions submitted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) to the [WIPO Re:Search Database](#).

**Expertise on pathogen-host interactions for drug targets, vaccines candidates and diagnostic biomarkers (ID: 2122)**

The Singapore MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART) Center Infectious Disease program is a cutting-edge research program that studies host-pathogen interactions at the cellular and molecular levels. The program focuses on infectious diseases that are of particular concern in Singapore and the rest of Asia. The SMART Center Infectious Disease program could be of value to WIPO Re:Search. Members interested in leveraging this expertise to identify and study drug targets, vaccine candidates, and diagnostic biomarkers for NTDs, tuberculosis, and malaria.
**Multiscale regenerative technologies providing expertise for liver stage malaria (ID: 2123)**

The MIT Laboratory for Multiscale Regenerative Technologies focuses on the applications of micro- and nanotechnology toward tissue repair and regeneration. Specifically, the Laboratory studies the interactions between hepatocytes and their microenvironment, and has obtained a grant to develop models for liver stage malaria. These models could be useful to WIPO Re:Search.

Members studying and screening drugs targeting liver stage malaria.

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

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**WIPO Re:Search In the News**

The American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) published a blog written by BVGH about dengue fever and the need for initiatives such as WIPO Re:Search.

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**Upcoming Global Health Events**

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<td>American Society of Tropical Medicine &amp; Hygiene (ASTMH) 64th Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
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