



## Partnership Hub Snapshot

June 2016

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### Letter from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

WIPO Re:Search and its Members were featured during two key events over the past month. WIPO organized and hosted a WIPO Re:Search panel discussion concurrent to the World Health Assembly, which featured panelists from **MSD**, **Sanofi**, and the **University of Buea**.

BVGH coordinated a multi-African country pavilion – featuring several WIPO Re:Search Members – at the 2016 BIO International Convention.

Both events were highly successful in raising awareness of WIPO Re:Search, its activities and impact, and the interests and capabilities of its Members.

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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### **World Health Assembly: WIPO Re:Search Side Event**

With the sponsorship of the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia in Geneva, WIPO organized and hosted a WIPO Re:Search side event at the WHO World Health Assembly in Geneva. H.E. Dr. Kesetebirhan Admasu, Minister of Health, Ethiopia, opened the event by describing the value of WIPO Re:Search to developing countries. Minelik Alemu Getahun, Assistant Director General, Global Issues Sector, WIPO,

MSD), and Martin Bernhardt, vice President, International Organizations, Sanofi.

Participants in the well-attended event listened to a lively discussion about WIPO Re:Search and the impact the Consortium has had to date.



WIPO Re:Search Panel from left to right: Dr. Anatole Krattiger (WIPO), Martin Bernhardt (Sanofi), Jennifer Dent (BVGH), H.E. Dr. Kesetebirhan Admasu (Ministry of Health, Ethiopia), Minelik Alemu Getahun (WIPO), Dr. Fidelis Cho-Ngwa (University of Buea), Laurel Vogelsang (MSD\*), and Tom Bombelles (WIPO).

\*Known as Merck & Co., Inc. in the US and Canada

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## Special Announcement

The [Eighth European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership \(EDCTP\) Forum](#) will take place on November 6-9, 2016 in Lusaka, Zambia. The Forum theme is: defeating poverty-related and neglected diseases in Africa: harnessing research for evidence-informed policies. The deadline for oral or poster presentation abstracts is **July 4, 2016**. Scholarships for early career scientists are available. Click [here](#) to submit an abstract and apply for a scholarship.

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## **WIPO Re:Search Statistics**

Agreements

103

Members

105

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.



\*Includes lymphatic filariasis, neurocysticercosis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, and soil-transmitted helminthiases

## Cornerstones of Collaboration



Michael Hsieh, Stirewalt Endowed Director and Principal Investigator of the Schistosomiasis Resource Center at the Biomedical Research Institute (BRI) shared positive controls (genomic DNA) for

*Schistosoma mansoni* and the intermediate host, the snail *Biomphalaria pfeifferi* with Olaoluwa (Pheabian) Akinwale, Director of Research (Neglected Tropical Diseases) and Principal Investigator of the Molecular Parasitology Research Laboratory at the Nigerian Institute of Medical Research (NIMR). Pheabian will be using these positive controls while characterizing the snails and looking for *S. mansoni* in a particular region of Nigeria and the prevalence could inform treatment policy.



Following BVGH's recommendation, Dr. Fidelis Cho-Ngwa, Associate Professor, Biotechnology Unit, **University of Buea**, applied for the **Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV)** Endemic-Region Challenge Grant for its new Pathogen Box. BVGH is pleased to announce that Fidelis was awarded the grant, which will support his examination of the Pathogen Box using his *in vitro* and *in vivo* onchocerciasis screens.



Dr. David Reddy, CEO, Medicines for Malaria Venture (left) and Dr. Fidelis Cho-Ngwa, Associate Professor, Biotechnology Unit, University of Buea (right) at the WHO World Health Assembly Novartis Access side event

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### **Partnership Hub Central**

BVGH hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Africa pavilion at the 2016 **Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO)** International Convention in San Francisco. Several WIPO Re:Search Members were represented at the pavilion including the **University of Buea** (Cameroon), the **Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine (KCCR)** and the **Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR)** (Ghana), the **African Institute of Biomedical Science and Technology (AIBST)** (Zimbabwe), **University of Ibadan** and **Nigerian Institute of Medical Research (NIMR)** (Nigeria), **University of Bamako** (Mali), and **Cheikh Anta Diop University** (Senegal). Additional WIPO Re:Search Members, including the **University of California, San Francisco**, **Johnson & Johnson**, and **MSD\***, visited the pavilion and met with the exhibitors.

Jennifer Dent, President, BVGH, also featured WIPO Re:Search during her presentation at the Convention's 12th Annual Biotechnology Entrepreneurship Boot Camp.



Dr. Augustina Angelina Sylverken, Postdoctoral Fellow, Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine (KCCR) (left) and James Greenwood, President & CEO, BIO (right)

The Africa pavilion was made possible through the generous sponsorship of Celgene Corporation; Genentech, Inc.; Gilead Sciences, Inc.; Global Good, Intellectual Ventures; Just Biotherapeutics; **Janssen, the Pharmaceutical companies of Johnson & Johnson; MSD\***; Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA); **Pfizer, Inc.; Sanofi**; SCYNEXIS, Inc.; **Takeda Pharmaceutical Company**; the US Pharmacopeial Convention; and Viamet Pharmaceuticals.

\*Known as Merck & Co., Inc. in the US and Canada

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## **[BVGH FundFinder Featured Funding Announcement](#)**

### **[BD Biosciences Research Grants: Infectious Diseases](#)**

BD Biosciences Research Grants aim to reward and enable important research by providing vital funding to scientists pursuing innovative experiments that advance the scientific understanding of disease. A total of \$140,000 worth of BD Biosciences research reagents are awarded annually to 14 scientists. Through the grant program, BD Biosciences works to support innovation in research and development, helping to define the next generation of scientific breakthroughs.

**Funding amount:** \$10,000 worth of BD Biosciences research reagents

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**Eligibility:** Research lab must be based in the US, a member state of the European Union, Andorra, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland, or Vatican City State

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email [Roopa Sriram](mailto:Roopa.Sriram@bvgh.com).



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## **Member Request**



The **Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED)** Research Fairness Initiative (RFI) aims to create a reporting system that encourages governments, business, organizations, and funders to share their efforts to develop fair partnerships and, in the process, develop better guidelines and benchmarks that will increase global capacity to deal with the challenges of global health, equity, and development. Through its Global Consultation 3, COHRED is soliciting comments, examples, ideas, and suggestions for implementation of the RFI. Click [here](#) to learn more and share your input and ideas. Please submit feedback by **June 30, 2016**.

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## **Highlighted Contributions**

Featured this month are two contributions submitted by **GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)** to the [WIPO Re:Search Database](#).

### **Method for inhibiting MetAP2 and inhibitor identification methods (ID: 2064)**

Methods are disclosed for identifying inhibitors of methionine aminopeptidase type 2 (hMetAP2) and for inhibiting hMetAP2 using inhibitors with certain structural, physical, and spatial characteristics. Preparation of triazole derivative inhibitors is also described.



### **GSK know-how from abandoned patents available for NTD research and development (ID: 1408)**

GSK will consider requests for help in pursuing projects aimed at developing medicines to treat one of the 21 NTDs in least developed countries where the company may have relevant expertise. The subject matter in some of GSK's [abandoned patent applications](#) may provide an important know-how entry point for third party programs. GSK is willing to share any further know-how that it may have in relation to these areas.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact [Ujwal Sheth](#).

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## **WIPO Re:Search In the News**

The WIPO Re:Search agreement between **GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)** and the **Center for World Health & Medicine (CWHM)** was described in an [article](#) on open-source research in *Nature*.

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Dates	Event Name	Location	Web Link
Sept. 18-22	International Congress for Tropical Medicine and Malaria (ICTMM)	Brisbane, Australia	<a href="#">Website</a>
Nov. 4-7	International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance (IMED)	Vienna, Austria	<a href="#">Website</a>
Nov. 13-17	American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) Annual Meeting	Atlanta, Georgia	<a href="#">Website</a>

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\*Known as EMD in the US and Canada | \*\*Known as Merck in the US and Canada

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