Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

As we call attention to World Antibiotic Awareness Week (Nov. 13-19th), we recognize antimicrobial resistance (AMR) as a growing concern that requires action from multiple global public health stakeholders. In support of this action, WIPO published a report underscoring the need to address AMR, and calling for support of R&D towards novel diagnostics and treatments.

WIPO Re:Search is responding to the AMR crisis by establishing collaborations between Members to accelerate the development of novel drugs and resistance-detecting technologies for neglected infectious diseases including those that address diagnostic and therapeutic gaps for soil-transmitted helminthiases, malaria, and tuberculosis.

I am pleased to welcome our two newest Members, Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology of Rosario (IBR) and George Washington University.

Have you presented or published the results of your WIPO Re:Search collaboration recently? If so, please let Katy Graef know so that BVGH can feature your work in the 2017 WIPO Re:Search Annual Report, as well as in an upcoming issue of the Snapshot.

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**

**Chagas Disease: Current Status and Future Therapeutic Directions**

Janssen, the Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson, is hosting a symposium to discuss the latest in Chagas disease research. The event will take place on December 5, 2017 in San Diego, California and will feature several seminars followed by a roundtable discussion lead by Dr. Jim McKerrow, Dean, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of California, San Diego (UCSD).

Please click [here](#) to register, and email Cathy Manner to arrange a meeting at the event.

**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**

In follow-up to a prior agreement, Eisai Co., Ltd. will provide Prof. Jim McKerrow, Director, and Prof. Jair Siqueira-Neto, Kinetoplastid and High Throughput Screening Facility Core Director, Center for Discovery and Innovation in Parasitic Diseases (CDIPD), University of California, San Diego (UCSD), with additional squalene synthase inhibitors to test against *T. cruzi* and *Leishmania spp*. Eisai has also agreed to provide Prof. Conor Caffrey, Nematode and Trematode Core Director, CDIPD, with two targeted inhibitor sets to screen against *S. mansoni*. 
FIT2 fellow Tahmina Ahmed from the **International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b)** has begun her sabbatical with Prof. Leann Tilley and Dr. Natalie Spillman at the **University of Melbourne**. The sabbatical is supported by funding from IP Australia to WIPO through Funds in Trust (FIT). Tahmina’s project is focused on investigating the antimalarial activities of select inhibitors. From left to right: Dr. Natalie Spillman, Prof. Leann Tilley, and Tahmina Ahmed.

**New Member Announcement**

We are pleased to announce that the **Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology of Rosario (IBR)** and **George Washington University** have joined WIPO Re:Search.

**Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology of Rosario**

The Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology of Rosario (IBR) was founded in 1999 as a joint effort between the Argentinian National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET) and the University of Rosario. Laboratories at IBR span a diverse range of research interests including mechanisms of bacterial pathogenesis and resistance and the biology and biochemistry of *Trypanosoma cruzi*. IBR contributes to scientific innovation through specialized services including cellular toxicity assays and structural biology and metabolomics technology platforms.

**George Washington University**

The George Washington University (GW) was established in 1821, and is the largest institution of higher education in Washington D.C. The University includes 10 schools, over 1,200 non-medical, and more than 1,000 medical faculty. Researchers in GW’s **Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Tropical Medicine** (MITM) conduct innovative, fundamental, basic, and translational research for a host of NTDs. Research conducted by GW faculty includes drug discovery for tuberculosis, development of a hookworm vaccine, identification of biomarkers for *Schistosoma*-related cancers, and identification of drug targets in African trypanosomes.

**IP in Focus**

**WIPO TISCs – Accessing the information most relevant to you**

For many innovators, knowing where to find the necessary patent, scientific, and technological resources to take their innovation forward can prove challenging. Addressing this issue is one of the main goals of the *IP in Focus* series. Yet going through a technical database with millions of records begs the following question about accessibility of information – how can you find and identify the information most relevant to you?
To help address this question, WIPO has teamed up with national and regional intellectual property offices to support the establishment and development of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs). TISCs are designed to provide developing country innovators with access to locally-based, high quality technology information services and other related support. Services include facilitated access to patent databases and other scientific and technology resources through tailored support with information search and retrieval, on-demand searches, and monitoring of technology and competitors (who might also become collaborators). Users can also benefit from access to information on relevant laws, management and strategy, and commercialization and marketing.

Additional services include on-site training and distance learning as well as dissemination of best practices and experiences. Currently, over 70 WIPO Member States are in the process of establishing TISC networks that encompass more than 600 individual centers.

For more information please visit the TISC web page at www.wipo.int/tisc. You can also browse the “eTISC” knowledge management platform to access social media tools and new services and resources and join the online global TISC community at http://etisc.wipo.org.

Anatole Krattiger
Director, Global Challenges Division, WIPO

66th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene

Cathy Manner and Mary Chaffee represented BVGH at the ASTMH Annual Meeting November 5-9 in Baltimore, Maryland. Cathy and Mary discussed WIPO Re:Search collaboration ideas with Members from Cheikh Anta Diop University, the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b), McGill University, MSD*, Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV), National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), PATH, the University of California (San Diego and San Francisco), the University of Georgia (UGA), and others.

Professors Doudou Sow, Cheikh Anta Diop University (left) and Roger Prichard, McGill University (right)

Mary Chaffee (left) with Dr. Deus Ishengoma, NIMR (right)

Mary Chaffee (left) with Tahmina Ahmed, icddr,b (right)

*Known as Merck & Co., Inc. in the US and Canada
Promoting Policy Coherence on Health Technology Innovation & Access in the ARIPO Region

Charles Randolph, Head, Global Health, WIPO, attended the High Level Meeting on Promoting Policy Coherence on Health Technology Innovation and Access for the African Regional Intellectual Property Office (ARIPO), held Nov. 1-3 in Lilongwe, Malawi. During the panel, Charles (left) had the opportunity to meet with His Excellency the Ambassador Robert D. Salama (center), and the Malawi Minister of Health, Honorable Atupele Austin Muluzi (right).

Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC) Conference Grant

COST is the longest-running European framework supporting trans-national cooperation among researchers, engineers, and scholars across Europe. The COST Association complements the activities of the European Union Framework Programmes, fostering connections with the scientific communities of COST Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs).

The COST Association recently allocated ~€5,600 towards "Inclusiveness Target Countries Conference Grants" to allow four Ph.D. students or early-career investigators from ITCs to attend international science and technology conferences. Eligible conferences do not need to be organized by a COST Action.

**Funding amount:** €1,400  
**Funder:** COST  
**Deadline:** 45 days before the conference start date. The event should take place before March 11, 2018.  
**Eligibility:** Ph.D. students or early career investigators affiliated with an institution located in an ITC.

1 The following countries are considered ITC: Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Serbia and Turkey.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email Cathy Manner.

Highlighted Contribution

Tuberculosis

In the last 100 years, the discovery of antibiotics, beginning with penicillin, revolutionized human health and society. Today, we can easily treat infections that once took tens of thousands of lives. Many organisms, however, have begun to show signs of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), threatening to once again pose grave dangers to human health. *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* is one such organism that has followed this concerning trend. Recent years have seen the introduction of multidrug resistant tuberculosis strains (MDR-TB), and even extreme drug-resistant strains (XDR-TB), unresponsive to at least one of three second-line drugs.

The success rate of MDR-TB treatment is only around 50%, and drops to around 25% for XDR-TB. There is an urgent need for new tuberculosis drugs with novel targets and mechanisms of action.
In recognition of World Antibiotic Awareness Week (Nov. 13-19th), this Snapshot highlights compounds that have repurposing potential against tuberculosis:

- Carbonic anhydrase inhibitors
- CXCR2 antagonists
- HDAC inhibitors
- Proteasome inhibitors
- STING inhibitors

For more information or to discuss accessing these compounds, please contact Mary Chaffee.

### Upcoming Global Health Events

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<tr>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>ISNTD Water 2017</td>
<td>London, UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 7 - 8</td>
<td>Swiss TPH Winter Symposium: Helminth Infection - from Transmission to Control</td>
<td>Basel, Switzerland</td>
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<td>Jan. 28 -</td>
<td>Keystone Symposium: Emerging Technologies in Vaccine Discovery and Development (J5)</td>
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<td>Jan. 30 -</td>
<td>Anthelmintics III: From Discovery to Resistance</td>
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*Known as EMD in the US and Canada | **Known as Merck in the US and Canada