

New Chair of the Renal Scientists Working Party (RSWP)

For those members of the Renal Association who do not know me, let me introduce myself. I am Dr John Reynolds and I have now taken over from Dr Tim Johnson as the chair of the Renal Scientists Working Party (RSWP). As you may well have seen in your recent Renal Association newsletter, I have also been elected to take over from Dr Tim Johnson as the Non-Clinical Representative on the Executive Committee of the Renal Association.

At present I am currently a Research Lecturer in the Renal Section within the Division of Medicine at the Hammersmith Campus of Imperial College London. After obtaining a BSc (Hons) in Biology from the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, I did a PhD in the Renal Unit within the Department of Medicine at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School at Hammersmith Hospital, supervised by Professor Charles Pusey. After the completion of my PhD, I have been involved in several postdoctoral collaborative studies, including a laboratory placement in Professor Tim Aitman's Lab at the MRC Clinical Sciences Centre, Imperial College London, and as a visiting scientist in Professor Raghu Kalluri's Lab at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School, Boston.

As a result my research has focused on the investigation of the immunopathogenesis and assessment of antibody-based therapeutic approaches in animal models of autoimmune glomerulonephritis. Over the last few years I have published an extensive range of high quality specialist and general papers in peer reviewed journals, and been awarded several project grants and sent up many collaborative studies with industrial biotech companies. I also have an active teaching role at Imperial College London, in that I am involved in Lecturing to Undergraduate and Postgraduate students, and regularly supervise BSc, MSc and PhD student's research projects.

As the chair of the Renal Scientists Working Party (RSWP), and the Non-Clinical Representative on the Executive Committee of the Renal Association, I will be able to further increase the profile of scientists within the renal community and ensure that the scientific programme at future meetings continues to improve year after year. I think that this is essential if we want to continue to encourage scientists to submit abstracts to the annual conference and present their work to their fellow colleagues. This will allow non-clinicians to develop new ideas and collaborations with fellow scientists in the field of renal science, and ultimately lead to more renal scientists writing their own grants and developing independent research teams. I strongly believe that the continuity of good non-clinical scientists working in renal research is essential, if we plan to be more successful in implementing the translation of laboratory based research to clinical application in the future.

Please feel free to drop me an email with any suggestions on how we can improve any aspect of the Renal Association for scientific members (john.reynolds@imperial.ac.uk).



Dr John Reynolds