

Welcome to the December issue of Anastomosis. In this issue, we bring you the latest news from our members and keep you updated on upcoming deadlines. We also highlight some interesting news articles from the past month.

### Mark your diary!

The joint **Winter meeting** of the **Anatomical Society**, **British Association of Clinical Anatomists** and the **Institute of Anatomical Sciences** will take place in Cardiff from **19-21 December 2011**. The main theme for the meeting will be Education with a symposium on '**New Anatomy - New Anatomists: the subject, student, teacher and donor**'. Symposium topics include measuring success, assessment and examination, and psychometrics with several key speakers from Europe and the United States.

The **Anatomical Society Undergraduate Prize** will be awarded, at the meeting, to the best communication by an undergraduate student.

### Imminent Deadlines

**2<sup>nd</sup> December 2011** is a key deadline for the following Anatomical Society Awards:

**The Symington Bequest Award** (Round 5)

**The Barclay-Smith Travelling Fund** (Round 5)

See [www.anatsoc.org.uk](http://www.anatsoc.org.uk) for further details.

### STEM Conference

The Higher Education Academy is accepting abstracts for the first science, technology and medicine conference on 12-13 April 2012 at Imperial College London. Deadline for submission of abstracts is Friday 16 December 2011. More information about the conference is available at: [http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/events/detail/2012/academyevents/STEM\\_annual\\_conf](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/events/detail/2012/academyevents/STEM_annual_conf)

### Muscle wasting and reactive oxygen

Did you know that muscle wasting is accompanied by reduced numbers of muscle cells, along with abnormal levels of reactive oxygen species. This may be related to myostatin a member of the TGF-beta family. Read more about this in a paper by Sandhya Sriram and colleagues in the December issue of the journal **Ageing Cell** at: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1474-9726.2011.00734.x/abstract>

### Drug firms and patient medical records

Do you agree that giving drug firms access to medical records of patients will lead to 'breakthroughs'? You can read the opinions of seven scientists in the Daily Telegraph at: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/science/science-news/8946362/Allowing-use-of-medical-data-will-lead-to-more-breakthroughs.html>

### Archiving the past

Society archivist Laurence Garey has written a fascinating historical treatise on the brain, the soul and the mind (*Bumps or holes: the seat of the soul*). Take for example Descartes description of the pain reflex: "Put your foot in a fire: the flame burns the skin, which pulls a string, which opens a pore in a ventricle letting 'animal spirit' flow through a hollow tube to a leg muscle, and the foot withdraws". You can read the full text of his illustrated exploration of history through Plato, Democritus, Edwin Smith, al Razi, and Broca at

<http://www.anatsoc.org.uk/Membership/CurrentNewsletter.aspx>

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### Calendar

**19–21 December 2011** – Cardiff.  
*Joint Winter Meeting of Anatomical Society and the British Association of Clinical Anatomists, including Education Symposium*

**10–12 July 2012** – Edinburgh.  
*Joint Meeting of Anatomical Society, and the Spanish Anatomical Society, including Motor Neurone Symposium*

### Deadlines this month

#### December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### Barclay-Smith Travelling Awards – Round 4

**Helen Meadows** – Dundee University. To attend Winter meeting of the Anatomical Society in Cardiff, December 2011

**Seaneen Tennent** – Dundee University. To attend Winter meeting of the Anatomical Society in Cardiff, December 2011

### Cells and counts

Terry Mayhew reviews the methods for sectioning, sampling, labeling densities and statistical approaches when working with immunoelectron microscopy. you can read the full review at: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1469-7580.2011.01438.x/full>

### Vacancies

**The American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine (AUC)**, on the island of St Maarten has a vacancy for a **faculty position in Clinical Anatomy**. The position requires a Ph.D. in the Anatomical Sciences, and/or MD with considerable experience related to the Anatomical Sciences. Closing date for applications is **2nd January 2012**. Further details may be found at [www.anatsoc.org.uk/Vacancies.aspx](http://www.anatsoc.org.uk/Vacancies.aspx)

### Send us your news!

If you have any news, events or announcements that you would like to see published in the newsletter, send us an email.

### Royal Society Funding Opportunities

*Leverhulme Trust Senior Research Fellowship (closing: 11 January 2012)*

*Brian Mercer Feasibility Awards (Open for Applications)*

### Snap Book Reviews

*Members are invited to send us a **200-word synopsis of any textbook** in anatomy, histology, anthropology, embryology or radiology which they are using in their course(s) and which they would like to highlight for other readers.*

### Letters to the Editors

*Are there issues affecting research and education in anatomy, histology, anthropology, embryology or radiology which you would like to raise to other anatomists? Why not send a **letter to the editors** describing the issue in 150 words or less? We will publish these letters and any responses we receive each month.*

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