

SynBioStandards Network

**** JULY '09 NEWSFLASH ****



Welcome to this month's round-up of news, events and highlights for Network members.

NETWORK NEWS

Save the Date! The next SynBioStandards Network meeting will be hosted by Imperial on **FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER**, with a dinner on the 17th. Programme and details to follow.

Two new bursary schemes are being launched to encourage Network exchange and cooperation! (I) **Travel bursaries for collaborative writing** will support travel and one night of accommodation for up to two Network members to travel to another Network institution to work on an RFC, a datasheet, a commentary/review article or a journal article.

(II) **Network seminar bursaries** will support travel and up to one night of accommodation for a Network member to travel to another Network institution for the purposes of delivering an academic/research seminar relevant to the Network's activities.

Details and application forms are attached, and will soon be available to download from the Network website and wiki. Please make use of these schemes! If you have ideas for other ways of fostering exchange across the Network, please contact Alistair, Emma or Jim H.

Several articles in the July 2009 edition of The Journal of the Royal Society 'Interface' were penned by SynBioStandards members from Cambridge, Edinburgh, and Imperial. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/kp4s9o> to access the papers.

The Royal Academy of Engineering publicized the findings from their recent public dialogue exercise at a meeting in London on 18 June. The report *Synthetic Biology: Public Dialogue on Synthetic Biology* provides a summary of this work. Networkers Jane Calvert and Paul Freemont were involved in the public meetings.



The iGEM-UK teams assembled in balmy Edinburgh for two days of talks and activities on 23–24 June. Veteran teams from Newcastle, Edinburgh, Bristol and Sheffield were joined by iGEM freshers Aberdeen and UCL. Plenty of promising projects on the go, and we look forward to following their progress on the team wikis!

UPCOMING EVENTS...

(details available on www.synbiostandards.ac.uk)

9–10th July 2009: OECD/NAS/Royal Society meeting on synthetic biology, Washington DC

14–16th Sept 2009: First annual meeting of the UK RoBSNet Network meeting, Oxford

18–20th Oct 2009: conference on Evolution and Design of Biomolecular Systems: Concepts and Strategies for Systems and Synthetic Biology, Illetes-Mallorca (Spain) — followed by a satellite sandpit meeting (21/22 Oct) on defining transcriptional standards

If you are running an event, have published an article, are speaking at a conference, have been awarded a grant, want to publicize upcoming activities, etc., just send details to emma.frow@ed.ac.uk by the last day of the month.