

SynBioStandards Network

**** JUNE '09 NEWSFLASH ****



Welcome to the first edition of a monthly SynBioStandards Network newsletter — a round-up of news, events and highlights for Network members.

ON THE WEBSITE (www.synbiostandards.ac.uk)

- * A short report from the Standards satellite meeting at BioSysBio is available on the website. Thanks to all those who attended the workshop, and to Jim Haseloff for organising.*
- * [DIYbio has been in the national news lately. What do you think of this growing movement? Take part in our online poll.](#)*
- * There are at least 3 draft RFCs on the Network wiki patiently awaiting comments. Please contribute your thoughts — and feel free to post your own draft RFCs for comments!*

NETWORK NEWS

The Centre for Synthetic Biology and Innovation (CSynBI) at Imperial and the LSE (BIOS) was formally launched on 12 May 2009, with a high-profile afternoon event including keynote speakers Pam Silver, Evelyn Fox Keller and Jay Keasling.

The Royal Academy of Engineering published a report on synthetic biology in early May, entitled *Synthetic Biology: Scope, Applications and Implications*. Working party members included SynBioStandards Network members Richard Kitney (Chair), Jane Calvert, Jon Cooper, Alistair Elfick, Paul Freemont and Jim Haseloff.

On 20 May, Network members Jane Calvert and Emma Frow convened a group of 20 social scientists from across the seven UK synthetic biology networks and the BIOS Centre to spend a day discussing their involvement in synthetic biology and a possible research agenda. A workshop summary for the Networks is forthcoming.

Last but not least, BBF RFC_34 is the first RFC to be requested by members of the SynBioStandards Network — 'A Promoter Measurement Kit for *Bacillus subtilis*.'

COMING UP...

A number of exciting proposals are currently being developed for Network activities over the summer and beyond. Details to follow soon...



In the meantime, the 2009 UK iGEM teams are starting up, and Edinburgh will be hosting an iGEM-UK Gathering on 23/24th June. We wish all nine UK teams well and look forward to hearing about their projects!

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.