TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN
COLÁISTE NA TRÍONÓIDE, BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
THE UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN

IRISH ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACOLOGISTS

Annual Meeting of the Irish Association of Pharmacologists

New Therapies–New Challenges: The Advancement of Pharmacology and Therapeutics in the 21st Century

Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute
November 27th 2014

Professor John Feely – Friend to Pharmacology

Professor Feely started his medical studies in University College Dublin and continued his professional development as a junior doctor in the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, at which point he also began to achieve excellence in research. He was awarded an M.D. by thesis by the National University of Ireland in 1979. He was subsequently awarded several scholarships, prizes and fellowships including a Japanese Pharmacological Society Fellowship and a Wellcome Young investigator award for clinical research. Professor Feely pursued his higher professional training at one of the best clinical pharmacology departments in the United Kingdom, Ninewells Hospital and Medical School in Dundee. He was awarded an international fellowship in clinical pharmacology in 1979, which enabled him to study at Vanderbilt University, Nashville Tennessee.

He was appointed to the Chair of Pharmacology and Therapeutics at Trinity College in 1984. From the very beginning he encouraged research and there was soon a continuous flow of high quality papers from the department. He also developed his own personal research and he became an international expert on the treatment of hypertension. Professor Feely published over three hundred research papers in leading international journals such as the Lancet, the Journal of the American Medical Association and The New England Journal of Medicine.

Professor Feely balanced his research with his clinical work first as a physician to Dr. Steevens' Hospital and then to St. James's Hospital. He established model hypertension and lipid clinics at St. James's Hospital. Professor Feely served on numerous national and international committees including the National Drugs Advisory Board, the Health Research Board and the Irish Heart Foundation. He was the driving force behind the establishment of three major initiatives: the National Medicines Information Centre, The National Pharmacoeconomics Unit and the Centre for Advanced Clinical Therapeutics. He was a member of several international learned societies including the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, the European Society of Hypertension and the British Hypertension Society. Professor Feely served as registrar to the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland from 1989 to 1996 and he is generally recognized as one of the most effective doctors to fill this position.

Professor Feely was held in great affection by many people. He approached everything with fairness and balance and he was always very generous with his time to the many who sought his counsel. He always managed to express his point of view without undermining friendships and he had a playful and disarming sense of humour. However, his gentleness could never be mistaken for "weakness" as he had incredible tenacity when he had an important goal to achieve.

It is with great affection and admiration we remember him today during our 15th meeting of the Irish Association of Pharmacologists.

Programme

1.30–2.00pm	Registration
2.00–2.05pm	Welcome
Chairs	Dr. Anne-Marie Liddy, Dr Martina Hennessy

Practical Perspectives on Innovation

2.05–2.35 pm	**Dr. Jennifer Kieran** New Drugs for HCV: Effective, but can we afford them?

Bridging the Gap in Stoke Medicine

2.35–3.05pm	**Dr. Christian Waeber** Fingolimod: Will it bridge the translation gap in stroke?
3.05–3.35pm	**Prof. David Williams** Latest Update on Acute Stroke Management
3.40–4.00pm	**Coffee Break**

New Drugs: Translational pathways from Bench to Patient to Population

4.00–4.30pm	**Dr. Kathleen Bennett** Aspirin and Cancer. From Population to Patient: Towards personalised breast cancer medicine
4.30–5.00pm	**Dr. Igor Klyubin** Actions, Interactions and Targeting Alzheimer's Disease-Associated Amyloid Beta Assemblies
5.10–6.00pm	**Prof. Gerry McElvaney** Disease Modifying Therapies for Cystic Fibrosis – New Challenges for the 21st Century

Prof. Gerry McElvaney
Professor McElvaney is a clinician scientist with a strong track record in translational research; he is widely published in the areas of Cystic Fibrosis, emphysema and lung inflammation. Under his directorship, the Respiratory Research Division of RCSI has attracted national and international funding and has established links with the pharmaceutical industry interested in translational research. In 1999 Beaumont Hospital was the first site worldwide for I.V. intravenous administration of transgenic alpha 1-antitrypsin to individuals with alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency. 2004 saw the first Phase 1 study in Beaumont Hospital of Lomucin, a medication developed to block abnormal mucin production from bronchial epithelium. This work arose directly from research carried out in the Respiratory Research Division. In 2003 Professor McElvaney founded the Alpha One Foundation of Ireland and subsequently received funding from the Department of Health and Children to set up an Alpha One Research unit and established the first targeted detection programme and registry for individuals with Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency in Europe.

Dr. Jennifer Kieran
Dr. Jennifer Kieran is a consultant infectious diseases physician with an interest in Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, in St James's Hospital. Her PhD work is in the area of pharmacoeconomics focusing on the cost-effectiveness of treatments for Hepatitis C in Ireland. She graduated from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and underwent Higher Specialist Training in University College Hospital, Galway, Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dublin and St James Hospital, Dublin. She was awarded a Scholarship from the Infectious Diseases Society of Ireland and undertook a Fellowship in Microbiology in the Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney. She has published in the areas of HIV medicine, HIV/HCV co-infection, outpatient antibiotic therapy and antimicrobial stewardship.

Dr. Christian Waeber
Dr. Christian Waeber recently relocated from Harvard Medical School to University College Cork, where he is senior lecturer in Pharmacology.
Early in his career, Dr. Waeber worked as a Ph.D. student at Novartis Basel, where he characterized the pharmacological profile, signaling pathways and brain distribution of 5-HT1D receptors. He then joined as a post-doctoral fellow the laboratory of Joel Bockaert, at the "Centre CNRS-INSERM de Pharmacologie-Endocrinologie" in Montpellier as a post-doctoral fellow. In 1993, he joined the Mass General to further characterize the pharmacological profile of 5-HT1-like receptors in collaboration with Michael Moskowitz.
Ten years ago, he began to focus on the role of sphingosine-1-phosphate (S1P) receptors in blood vessels and brain, significantly their role in the treatment of cerebrovascular disorders and conditions such as diabetes, atherosclerosis, pulmonary hypertension and cancer. Dr. Waeber's team has also shown that S1P receptors have a widespread distribution both in adult and developing brain. They have characterized the CNS distribution of the S1P synthesizing enzyme, sphingosine kinase (SK), showing that it is up-regulated in neurons following ischemia.
Finally, they have shown that stimulating S1P receptors with a pharmacological agent (FTY720/fingolimod) or endogenously-produced S1P (preconditioning) protects the brain from ischemia-induced damage. Finally, Dr. Waeber's team has shown that administering fingolimod as late as 24 hours after reperfusion in a mouse model promotes long-term stroke recovery.

Prof. David Williams
Prof Williams has been a Consultant Stroke Physician at Beaumont Hospital since 2009. He completed HST in Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics at St James Hospital Dublin, before taking up a post as Consultant in Clinical Pharmacology and Stroke Medicine at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. He has published widely in the fields of Pharmacoepidemiology, Hypertension, Patient Safety and Stroke Medicine. He was PI on the HRB-funded grant entitled ASPIRE-S which examined the secondary prevention of stroke. He is currently Co-PI in Ireland for the ESCAPE study, a multicentre international study which will increase our understanding of the role of endovascular clot removal. Prof Williams has served as the VP of the BPS and is currently the National Specialist Director for training in clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics.

Dr. Kathleen Bennett
Dr. Bennett is Associate Professor of Pharmacoepidemiology and a biostatistician working in the Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Trinity College Dublin. She completed her BSc in mathematics and statistics and then a PhD in statistics at Southampton University. Previous to her current appointment in 2001, Dr Bennett worked as a clinical trials statistician in industry and academia and as a fellow in health services research in the UK. Her main areas of interest are in pharmacoepidemiology, the study of medicines and their effects in large populations, including cancer pharmacoepidemiology, cardiovascular disease and diabetes epidemiology and epidemiological modelling. Dr. Bennett is a member of the Irish heart foundation council on cardiovascular disease prevention, the Diabetes Federation of Ireland Research alliance, a member of ENCEPP (European Network for Centres of Pharmacoepidemiology) and recently formed a European network of researchers in cancer pharmacoepidemiology.

Dr. Igor Klyubin
Dr Igor Klyubin obtained M.Sc. in physics from St. Petersburg State University, Russia and Ph.D. in cellular physiology from Russian Academy of Science. After graduation he spent some time doing research in Russia and France. Since late last century (1999) he has been working with Prof. Michael Rowan in Trinity College Dublin. He is co-author of 50+ peer-reviewed publications. His paper “Naturally secreted oligomers of amyloid beta protein potently inhibit hippocampal long-term potentiation in vivo” published in *Nature* has been cited over 2000 times. Recently he has secured funding from Health Research Board and is a senior research fellow in translational medicine.

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Logo designed by Dr. Laura O'Mahony and artist Pat Liddy