



# 84<sup>th</sup> Stephen Paget Memorial Lecture and Openness Awards Ceremony

6<sup>th</sup> December 2021  
Royal College of Physicians  
London

#ConcordatOpenness



WiFi details:

Network: RCP WiFi

Password: Any valid email address

Complimentary

# Programme

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- 17:30      Arrival and refreshments
- 18:00      Welcome Address
- 18:10      Openness Awards  
*2020 Openness Awards*  
*2021 Openness Awards*
- 18:30      84<sup>th</sup> Paget Lecture by Professor Clare Stanford  
*Tortoises, hares and other animals on the pathway to  
antidepression*
- 19:30      Drinks and canapes reception  
*Join a Mouse Exchange session*
- 21:00      End

## The Stephen Paget Memorial Lecture

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The Stephen Paget Memorial Lecture is a scientific lecture that commemorates the life of Dr Stephen Paget.

Stephen Paget (1855 – 1926) was the founder of the Research Defence Society, a forerunner of Understanding Animal Research. As a medical doctor, he believed passionately that better science and understanding of physiology would lead to better medical treatments.

After his death in 1926, he was greatly missed by his colleagues and by the scientific community. The first Stephen Paget memorial lecture was given in 1927 to commemorate his life and allow leading bio-medical scientists of the day to talk about their research.

## The Openness Awards

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The Concordat on Openness launched in May 2014 and has, to-date, brought together 127 organisations in a pledge to be more open and transparent about the use of animals in research.

This year the Openness Awards celebrate three signatory organisations that have met the Concordat commitments and encouraged the widespread sharing of best practice.

## Professor Clare Stanford

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Clare graduated in physiology at UCL, where she is now Professor of Translational Neuropharmacology. She carried out research for a DPhil in the Department of Physiology, Oxford, and was later awarded a faculty position, during which time she became the first woman Fellow at Exeter College. Her research, which focuses on how monoamines influence mood and behaviour, has involved both human studies and preclinical neuropharmacology.

She is an Honorary Fellow and former trustee of the British Pharmacological Society. She is a Past President of both LASA and the British Association for

Psychopharmacology and a former member of Council of the University of London.

Although semi-retired, she remains active in pharmacology and has editorial roles on several journals, including the British Journal of Pharmacology; the Journal of Psychopharmacology; Alternatives to Laboratory Animals; and Neuronal Signaling. Reflecting her commitment to the 3Rs and welfare in research that uses animals, she is currently a member of the national [A(SP)A] Animals in Science Committee and a LASA trustee. Clare is also a member of the Openness Awards judging committee.

## Past Paget Lecturers

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- 1927 Professor Julian Huxley
- 1928 Sir Bernard Spilsbury
- 1929 Professor A V Hill
- 1930 Lady Mellanby
- 1931 Sir Henry Dale
- 1932 Sir Arthur Keith
- 1933 Major General Sir Leonard Roberts
- 1934 Sir Joseph Barcroft
- 1935 Professor Sir Frederick Hobday
- 1936 Sir Malcolm Watson
- 1937 Professor G Grey Turner
- 1938 Professor Charles H Best
- 1939 Sir Edward Mellanby
- 1945 Sir William Savage
- 1946 Brigadier Sir N Hamilton Fairley
- 1947 Professor G H Wooldridge
- 1948 Professor P A Buxton
- 1949 Sir Charles A Lovatt Evans
- 1950 Professor E D Adrian
- 1951 Sir Wilson Jameson
- 1952 Sir Howard Florey
- 1953 Sir James Learmonth
- 1954 Sir Geoffrey Jefferson
- 1955 Sir Henry Dale
- 1956 Professor A A Miles
- 1957 The Rt Hon the Lord Cohen of Birkenhead
- 1958 Mr Richard Fort
- 1959 Sir Solly Zuckerman
- 1960 Professor J Harold Burn
- 1961 Sir Hugh Linstead
- 1962 Sir Derrick Dunlop
- 1963 Sir John Ritchie
- 1964 Professor Alex Haddow
- 1965 Professor D D Reid
- 1966 Sir Peter Medawar
- 1967 Professor A S Parkes
- 1968 Mr Christopher Mayhew
- 1969 Sir John Boyd
- 1970 Professor F G Young
- 1971 Professor Sir Michael Woodruff
- 1972 The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Halsbury
- 1973 Professor James Learmonth Gowans
- 1974 Dr W M Henderson
- 1975 Dr Arnold S V Burgen
- 1976 Dr Robert Murray
- 1977 Professor S Shuster
- 1978 Professor W D M Paton
- 1979 The Rev Canon G R Dunstan
- 1980 Godfrey J Carter
- 1981 Sir John Butterfield
- 1982 Professor Ernst Barany
- 1983 Professor Roy Calne
- 1984 Sir John Vane
- 1985 Baroness Mary Warnock
- 1986 Professor Ian A Silver
- 1987 Professor Sir Stanley Peart
- 1988 Dr Leslie L Iversen
- 1989 Professor W F H Jarrett
- 1990 Lord Walton of Detchant
- 1991 Dr Frederick K Goodwin
- 1992 Dr Bridget Ogilvie
- 1993 Dr Salvador Moncada
- 1994 Dr Ian Purchase
- 1995 Professor Sir Walter Bodmer
- 1996 Dr Keith Barnett
- 1997 Professor Grahame Bulfield
- 1998 Professor Trevor Jones
- 1999 Professor Steve Jones
- 2000 Baroness Susan Greenfield
- 2001 Sir Richard Sykes
- 2002 Professor Lord Winston
- 2003 Lord Sainsbury of Turville
- 2004 Lord Robert May
- 2005 Professor Mark Ferguson

2006 Dr Gill Samuels  
2007 Professor Chris Higgins  
2008 Professor Paul Andrews  
2014 Professor Dame Linda Partridge  
2015 Professor Sir Colin Blakemore

2016 Professor Sir Mark Walport  
2017 Professor Clive Page  
2018 Professor John O'Keefe  
2019 Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell  
2021 Professor Clare Stanford

# The 2020 Openness Awards

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Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we had to present the 2020 Openness Awards online. Tonight, we would like to invite our 2020 Openness Award winners on stage, so we can celebrate their achievements in person.

## *Presented by Pauline Mullin*

Pauline Mullin joined UKRI in 2019 and is Deputy Director for Strategic Communications, a role that encompasses developing, directing and evaluating communications strategies and plans for UKRI as a whole, individual Research Councils and strategic priority topics such as UKRI's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its contributions to the recent COP climate conference.

Prior to this, Pauline was Head of Communications and Public Engagement at the Medical Research Council for over ten years, managing a team which delivered news and social media, public affairs, editorial and publishing, internal communications and public engagement.

After graduating with a degree in zoology from the University of Edinburgh, Pauline worked in communications, marketing and engagement roles for a number of public and third sector organisations including Knowledge Transfer Partnerships, Edinburgh Zoo and Edinburgh International Science Festival.

## The University of Edinburgh's Roslin Institute

The Roslin Institute has developed a teachers' toolkit to raise awareness about the use of animals in research and the role of animal care staff in providing good welfare. The free toolkit is linked to the Scottish curriculum and designed for teachers with pupils aged 9-14 years old to download and use in the classroom. It supports classes to explore the scientific method using a series of simple, pupil-guided experiments with earthworms.

The toolkit highlights the importance of studying animal behaviour, introduces the 3Rs and gives teachers and pupils practical experience of designing their own investigation using earthworms. Additional support for



teachers is delivered via CPD sessions and the toolkit has been downloaded for use with young people across the world. The use of unprotected animals in classroom demonstrations is not taken lightly and this toolkit encourages sensitivity in working with living animals to study behaviour. In response to the pandemic, the toolkit was adopted for use by families at home.

## University of Reading

Last year, the University of Reading launched a media campaign to highlight work with their llamas, which is aiding the global search for vaccines and treatments for COVID-19. The campaign was designed to support communications from Universities UK on how universities are aiding the response to the coronavirus and reach beyond the usual science or medical-story audience.

The campaign included pictures and details of the llamas, explained the nature of procedures undertaken and why animals are important to coronavirus research. The story was shared across social media and received excellent coverage in traditional media.

## University of Southampton

The University of Southampton has created a curiosity-driven crafting activity (The Mouse Exchange) to help members of the public think deeply about the complexities of creating and caring for research animals. The activity is led by researchers and was designed to be highly accessible to encourage diverse participation, by adults and children from a range of backgrounds.

Those taking part in the activity joined small groups and used felt and other craft materials to make a mouse over 20 minutes. During this activity, questions and experiences were exchanged between participants and researchers, introducing complex ideas around care, institutionalisation, scientific process and uncertainty.

The workshop, which was launched in 2018, has featured at numerous science festivals, adult events, teaching seminars, and international conferences. During 2020 a virtual workshop was developed, allowing the team to work in a COVID-safe way, while reaching a wide range of

participants. The team hopes to offer the toolkit it has developed, for stakeholders to use in their own engagement practices in the future.

**Join Dr Emma Roe and Dr Bentley Crudgington after the Paget Lecture and discuss how to run your own Mouse Exchange as part of your public engagement activities. We have copies of the newly published and free to access, Mouse Exchange toolkit to take-away with you, and you might even make a felt laboratory mouse while you chat. Please sign-up at reception for a 20-min slot that starts from 7:30 pm in the main event space.**

## The NC3Rs and Mary Lyon Centre, MRC Harwell Institute

These two institutes have worked together, creating Rodent Little Brother: Secret Lives of Mice, a citizen science project hosted by Zooniverse, to generate scientifically useful data while opening a dialogue with members of the public about the need for animals in research, and the nature of the work done with animals. Their project is the first time a citizen science approach has been used in laboratory animal science.

In this project, members of the public watch six-second video clips of mice in the Home Cage Analyser system, identifying and recording the activity they observe. The Cage System allows mice to be studied in their home environment, minimising any stress associated with moving animals to test areas. The system produces a huge amount of video data capturing mouse behaviour and must be annotated to train algorithms and enable automatic computer recognition of key mouse behaviours, such as climbing, eating and drinking.

More than 4,000 volunteers registered to participate in this project, between them logging 211,000 behavioural events since its launch in August 2019.

# The 2021 Openness Awards

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*Presented by Professor Clare Stanford (Biography on p.4)*

*Presented by Rachel Lambert-Forsyth*

Rachel Lambert-Forsyth is Chief Executive of the British Pharmacological Society and Managing Director of BPS Assessment Ltd. Previously, she held various positions at the Royal Society of Biology, including Director of Education and Training and Director of Membership and Professional Affairs. Rachel has influenced national policy including advising the government on the 2012 National Curriculum Review and was appointed as a panel member of the Technical Level panel in healthcare science.

Rachel holds a bachelor's degree in Marine Biology and Coastal Ecology, and a master's degree in Sustainable Environmental Management from the University of Plymouth. She conducted research at the National Marine Laboratory and Plymouth Marine Laboratory in seahorse husbandry techniques and fisheries modelling. She is passionate about removing barriers to inclusion and champions the importance of building equitable spaces for everyone to achieve their potential in the workplace and beyond. She has more than 13 years of experience working in the professional body sector and is an elected Chartered Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology. She is a Trustee of the Royal College of Nursing Foundation, where she is currently Chair of their Grants Committee, and Vice Chair and Diversity Champion of the Science Council.

*Presented by Dr Jan-Bas Prins*

Jan-Bas Prins is the Director of the Biological Research Facility of the Francis Crick Institute, London, Professor of Laboratory Animal Science at Leiden University in the Netherlands and Honorary Professor of University College London. He did his PhD in Laboratory Animal Science at the University of Utrecht. After post-doctoral projects at the University of Oxford and the Erasmus University, Rotterdam he became the head of the pre-clinical division of the Department of Pulmonary Medicine at the Erasmus Medical Centre. In 2002, he moved on taking the position of Director of the Central

Animal Facility of the Leiden University Medical Centre in the Netherlands. He is a former President of FELASA.

He is a member of the Netherlands National Committee for the protection of animals used for scientific purposes, Chairman of Laboratory Animals Ltd, member of the Scientific Committee of the Fondazione Guido Bernardini on Education and Training in Laboratory Animal Science, Vice-President of the Institute of Animal Technology, and an AAALAC ad hoc specialist.

## Shortlisted Nominations

### Agenda Life Sciences

‘Discovery Park Vlog: A Multimedia Project’ is a multimedia project by Agenda Life Sciences to provide the public with opportunities to learn more about research using animals. The four episodes are themed to enhance Agenda’s public communication around four topics:

1. Physical infrastructure
2. Staffing and animal care
3. Biosecurity
4. Legal governance

Each episode includes video footage within the Discovery Park facility and gives additional resources for the audience to find out more about animal research. With an episode dedicated to staffing and animal care, videos include interviews with animal care technicians, animal research managers and Agenda’s Establishment Licence Holder.

Via release across Agenda’s public-facing website and social media channels, there is ample opportunity for public engagement as well as sector engagement.

Working in partnership with other organisations (Agenda’s commercial partners), allowed them to illustrate why commercial agreements and partnerships need not be a barrier to openness.

## GSK

Student presentations by GSK staff have been shared virtually, which has had a positive impact on attendance levels. Approximately 400 students took part in a session last summer with a further 80 students phoning in to the Q&A session. This is considerably higher than the previous in-person sessions.

Since then, GSK has increased its internal engagement on the use of animals in research by inviting staff to share 'quality proud moment' slides during World Quality Day. The theme was pride, passion and purpose. Photos of laboratory rodents, caging and environmental enrichment were posted alongside photos of staff that care for them. Slides were posted throughout the day on several workplace groups across the company.

## Imperial College London

Since 2013 the 3Rs Advisory Group has been instrumental in transforming the research culture at Imperial; organising courses promoting the principles of the 3Rs, engaging in a range of internal and external communication activities, and co-ordinating the Provost's Awards for excellence in animal research.

However, in order to continue Imperial's drive towards becoming world-leader for its 3Rs activities, a new structure needed to be created to expand upon the remit of an advisory group.

In 2021 the Central Biomedical Services department created a new Hub for the 3Rs at Imperial with budget to spend on 3Rs-relevant initiatives. The primary aim of the Hub is to promote the 3Rs principles across the College and influence the College Culture of Care. For this it will embark on a series of initiatives that fall within three global objectives:

1. Help to develop 3Rs activities guided to train animal care staff and researchers in the application of 3Rs principles.
2. Help to expand the portfolio of research projects that have 3Rs objectives at their core. As part of these efforts, we will aim to build more effective links with funding bodies such as the NC3Rs and others with specific 3Rs-focused funding streams (like UKRI).
3. Help to improve the internal and external visibility of the 3Rs activities that take place at Imperial.

## Institute of Animal Technology

The Institute of Animal Technology (IAT) has for many years encouraged and supported its members to be as open as possible regarding their professional activities. This has primarily led to countless visits to animal facilities across the UK by politicians, journalists, patient groups, charity workers, school groups and others. Nearly all of these visits are facilitated by the animal care staff, often at the request of other external organisations. The IAT has also been active in social media such as Twitter and Facebook. Through its local Branches, IAT Council supports events, primarily by supporting members and giving them the chance to interact socially. The most recent event, Tech Month, which ran a number of events in conjunction with employers, helped to highlight the valuable work of IAT members to their employers and other colleagues.

## The Pirbright Institute

The Pirbright Institute has submitted a nomination for its internal engagement activities.

At interview, every candidate is advised that the Institute's scientific research involves the use of animals and the reasons are explained. This is standard practice for all job roles.

The Animal Services department is included in the induction process for all new starters. The series of PowerPoint slides covers the Institute's use of animals, a brief overview of the legislation, 3Rs, culture of care and openness. This is followed by a mandatory online module covering the Institute's animal care and welfare standards and practices, which provides further information on the Institute's facilities and processes. A test then follows to ensure the module has been acknowledged.

The staff intranet contains a dedicated section on the AWERB. This includes meeting dates (AWERB meetings are open to all staff), minutes of previous meetings, core responsibilities etc. The AWERB has an open-door policy and any member of staff is welcome to attend (this is also stated in the new staff induction). A specific 3Rs page includes 3Rs advancements at Pirbright, case

studies and posters. A 'useful links' section is also available providing links to the Home Office website, a variety of organisations and electronic books.

Animal facility tours are advertised for all staff. These are usually organised ad-hoc according to demand but due to the pandemic this has not been possible. However, a 360 virtual tour of a new poultry facility was finalised in February 2021.

The Institute has a policy and process in place relating to concerns around animal care, treatment and welfare. Posters displaying the process for handling a concern are displayed in the entrance lobby to the animal facilities.

## University of Bath

The rodent forced swim test (FST) is one of several tests used by researchers at the University of Bath to determine the efficacy of novel anti-depressant compounds. Used in combination with other tests, it provides robust data about the behavioural effects of new potential treatments.

While Bath's AWERB (and those of other UK research institutions) are satisfied that the scientific objectives of the study could be met using the FST, a global campaign has been launched to ban the use of this test.

In line with the University's commitment to transparency and openness, an FST video was posted on Bath's webpages alongside an article describing when and why the FST is used at the University.

Following the website updates, the University has worked with its Student Debating Society (and other SU societies), to facilitate an online debate to enhance communication with the student body on the concerns surrounding this test. External speakers from PETA and UAR were invited to address the question of whether the FST should be banned in UK universities.

Bath's approach to the campaign targeting its use of the FST has been to maintain openness and transparency. Together with great communication, and cooperative working between animal technicians, researchers, AWERB, comms team and senior management they have been able to take a significant step forward in openness.

## University of Cambridge

In 2021 the University of Cambridge's public-facing webpages 'About Animal Research' were thoroughly updated to ensure they reflect the latest work, including the use of animals, particularly guinea pigs and hamsters, in the development of vaccine candidates for COVID-19. The pages are now simpler to navigate, making it easy to find information on each type of animal used and why. There is also a clear link to the latest news stories involving animal research that are published on the website.

This year, four news stories and one feature article about the University's research involving animals were published to promote cutting-edge scientific discoveries that have the potential to change human lives in the future.

The feature article 'Wireless limb control' published in May 2021 explains how researchers are developing wireless devices to bypass nerve damage and restore movement to paralysed human limbs. This provides an accessible case study on how researchers must test their new device in animals before it can be safely tested in humans:

The article is used as an opportunity to explain how the University ensures the welfare of the animals involved in its research. The inclusion of an image of a rat with the device implanted in its head is a bold demonstration of Cambridge's desire to be transparent about what is involved in developing new human treatments.

## University of Edinburgh

Since 2014, the zebrafish facility housed in the Medical Research Council Human Genetics Unit at the University of Edinburgh's Institute of Genetics and Cancer has opened its doors to S5 pupils from the local area (aged 16) as part of a week-long work experience programme. In 2020, the programme was innovatively redesigned to be delivered online and the zebrafish tour, which is typically the most popular part of the programme, was transformed into a virtual experience. Facility manager, Cameron Wyatt, gave an online talk, that included a live feed from a microscope showing baby zebrafish, and a guided tour of the whole facility. This experience was complemented with presentations and workshops from scientists who use zebrafish in their research, and a discussion session on the ethics of using animals in research.



The zebrafish talk and tour has been recorded and is now available on the Virtual Visit page of the University's public website. This was created to support the City's Doors Open Day in September 2020 and has subsequently been repurposed for numerous science festivals, which have been backed by extensive social media promotion and engagement.

The online tour and these virtual festivals have enabled the University to reach new and diverse audiences, championing an open approach to its world-leading animal research.

Cameron's passion and commitment to ensuring that the importance of the University's animal research is recognised within the University and amongst its stakeholders, and willingness to make the tour work online, meant the team could pivot to deliver the experience digitally. Cameron has clearly encouraged young people from across Scotland to think differently about animal models like zebrafish and why they are important to Edinburgh's biomedical and genetic research.

# Notes

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