

**Embargoed until 10.00 (GMT) Friday 9 May 2014**

#### **44 leading medical experts recognised for excellence in research**

44 researchers from across the UK have been recognised for their contribution to the advancement of medical science by election to the Fellowship of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

Academy Fellows are elected for excellence in medical research, for innovative application of scientific knowledge or for their conspicuous service to healthcare. The expertise of the new Fellows includes haematology, bioinformatics, immunology, psychiatry, biochemistry and health services provision.

This year, fifteen (34%) of the new Fellows are women, compared to 23.2% of bioscience professors in the UK. \*

Professor Sir John Tooke PMedSci, President of the Academy of Medical Sciences said, *"The Academy of Medical Sciences represents the excellence and diversity of medical science in the UK, and this is evident in the broad range of expertise demonstrated by this year's new Fellows. They each bring a unique perspective which we will value immensely – from the industry experience of Fellows such as Professor Jackie Hunter to the policy knowledge of Baroness Finlay. Their election is a much deserved honour for the outstanding achievements they have shown throughout their careers. I know they will contribute greatly to the Academy, and I am delighted to welcome them all to the Fellowship."*

Baroness Ilora Finlay of Landaff FMedSci is Professor of Palliative Medicine at Cardiff University, and a consultant at the Velindre Cancer Centre. In 2003, driven by her work with terminally ill lung cancer patients, she proposed a parliamentary bill to ban smoking in public buildings, and has worked with the government closely to advise on UK policies regarding organ donation, carbon monoxide poisoning, sunbed usage, bereavement in children and the care of prisoners. She has taught more

than 2000 doctors over 25 years, has led on palliative care and hospice development across Wales since 2008, and is a past President of the Royal Society of Medicine.

Another new Fellow, Professor Jacqueline Hunter CBE FMedSci, spent over 20 years working in industry before being elected Chief Executive of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council in 2013. Her area of expertise includes the development of new neurological and gastrointestinal drugs, and in 2011 she formed OI Pharma Partners, which works with universities and other organisations to optimise collaboration and increase the translation of their research.

Professor Sarah Tabrizi FMedSci, also elected this year, is Professor of Clinical Neurology at University College London and studies the cellular mechanisms behind Huntington's disease. She has worked on the disease throughout her career to wide acclaim, and is said to have set the standard for studying other neurodegenerative diseases. In 2009, she helped set up the UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Huntington's Disease to raise the profile of patients with the disease.

Professor Tabrizi is one of three former Academy mentees who have later been elected Fellows, alongside Professor Andrew Jackson FMedSci this year, and Professor Rebecca Fitzgerald FMedSci in 2013.

Professor Tabrizi has worked closely with the Academy for many years, joining the mentoring scheme in 2002, and being an active member of our Academic Careers Committee. She said:

*"My mentor and the Academy's Careers team have had an influential role in several career decisions, and this support has been invaluable over the last ten years. It is very exciting to be joining the Fellowship, and I look forward to maintaining a close relationship with the Academy in my new role."*

The new Fellows will be formally admitted to the Academy at a ceremony on Wednesday 2 July 2014.

- 44 Fellows selected from a pool of 351 candidates

- 15 women (34%) and 29 men (66%) elected
- 8 new Fellows are from the University of Cambridge, 6 are from Imperial College London and 5 from the University of Oxford. Other new Fellows are drawn from across the UK, including Dundee, Cardiff, Bristol and York.

\* She Figures 2012: EU Gender in Research and Innovation Report.

- ENDS -

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### Notes for Editors

This year Fellows were chosen from 351 candidates. The seven Sectional Committees met in March to consider potential Fellows for 2014 entry to the Academy. Three nominators from within the Fellowship must back each candidate. The Academy Registrar, Professor Moira Whyte, Professor of Respiratory Medicine, University of Sheffield, oversees the election.

The election brings the number of Fellows to 1133.

In 2013, the Academy released the report "Representation of women within the Academy's Fellowship", which scrutinised the nomination and election process for gender balance and equality.

The independent Academy of Medical Sciences promotes advances in medical science and campaigns to ensure these are translated into benefits for patients. The Academy's Fellows are the United Kingdom's leading medical scientists from hospitals, academia, industry and the public service.

Further details may be obtained from The Academy of Medical Sciences, 41 Portland Place, London W1B 1QH. Tel: 020 3176 2183 <http://www.acmedsci.ac.uk>

### Full list of Fellows elected in 2014

**Professor Carol Brayne**, Professor of Public Health Medicine; Honorary Consultant Public Health England, University of Cambridge

**Professor Antony M. Carr**, Director, Genome Damage and Stability Centre, School of Life Sciences, University of Sussex

**Professor Nicholas Coleman**, Professor of Molecular Pathology, University of Cambridge

**Professor Richard Cornall**, Professor of Immunology and University Lecturer in Renal Medicine and Honorary Consultant Physician, University of Oxford

**Professor Donna Davies**, Professor of Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology, University of Southampton

**Professor Gideon Davies FRS**, Professor of Biological Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, University of York

**Professor Anke Ehlers FBA**, Wellcome Trust Principal Research Fellow and Professor of Experimental Psychopathology, University of Oxford

**Professor Tim Elliott**, Associate Dean and Chair of Experimental Oncology, University of Southampton

**Professor Majid Ezzati**, Professor of Global Environmental Health, Imperial College London

**Baroness Ilora Finlay of Landaff FLSW**, Consultant in Palliative Medicine, Velindre Hospital; Hon. Professor at Cardiff University; Chair of Welsh Medical and Dental Academic Board; Chair of End of Life Care Board in Wales

**Professor Adrienne Flanagan**, Professor of Musculoskeletal Pathology; Academic Head of Pathology, University College London

**Professor Peter Fonagy OBE FBA**, Freud Memorial Professor of Psychoanalysis, UCL; Chief Executive, The Anna Freud Centre; Director of the Mental Health Programme, UCLPartners

**Professor Gary A. Ford CBE**, Chief Executive Officer, Oxford Academic Health Science Network; Stroke and Cardiovascular Theme Director, NIHR Clinical Research Network Consultant Stroke Physician, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust Visiting Professor of Clinical Pharmacology, Oxford University

**Professor Berthold Göttgens**, Professor of Molecular Haematology, University of Cambridge

**Professor Trisha Greenhalgh OBE**, Professor of Primary Health Care and Dean for Research Impact, Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London

**Professor David Gunnell**, Professor of Epidemiology; Hon Consultant in Public Health, University of Bristol

**Professor Jacqueline Hunter CBE**, Chief Executive, Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council

**Professor Andrew Jackson FRSE**, Programme Leader MRC Human Genetics Unit, and Hon. Consultant Clinical Geneticist, University of Edinburgh

**Professor Peter Johnson**, Professor of Medical Oncology, University of Southampton; Chief Clinician, Cancer Research UK.

**Professor Sebastian Johnston**, Professor of Respiratory Medicine, Imperial College London

**Dr Philip Jones**, Programme Leader MRC Cancer Unit, University of Cambridge; Hon Consultant in Medical Oncology Addenbrooke's Hospital, University of Cambridge

**Professor Leon Lagnado**, Professor of Neuroscience and Director of Sussex Neuroscience, University of Sussex

**Professor Angus Lamond FRS FRSE**, Professor of Biochemistry, University of Dundee

**Professor Paul M. Matthews OBE**, Professor of Clinical Neurosciences, Imperial College London

**Professor Julia Newton-Bishop**, Professor of Dermatology, University of Leeds

**Professor John O'Brien**, Professor of Old Age Psychiatry, University of Cambridge

**Professor Willem Ouwehand**, Professor of Experimental Haematology, University of Cambridge and Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, Honorary Consultant Haematologist NHS Blood and Transplant

**Professor Dudley Pennell**, Professor of Cardiology & Director National Institute for Health Research Cardiovascular Biomedical Research Unit

**Professor Timothy Peters**, Professor of Primary Care Health Services Research; Head of School of Clinical Sciences; Associate Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, Bristol University

**Professor Fiona Powrie FRS**, Sidney Truelove Professor of Gastroenterology, University of Oxford

**Professor Catherine Price**, Wellcome Trust Principal Research Fellow, University College London

**Professor Philip Quirke**, Head of Pathology and Tumour Biology, Academic Training Programme Director and Sub Dean for Medical and Dental Postgraduate academic training, University of Leeds and honorary Consultant Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

**Professor Eleanor Riley**, Professor of Infectious Disease Immunology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

**Professor Paul Riley**, British Heart Foundation Professor of Regenerative Medicine; Chair of Development and Reproduction, Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics University of Oxford

**Professor Nadia Rosenthal**, Chair in Cardiovascular Science, Imperial College London

**Professor David Salisbury**, Previous Director of Immunisation, Department of Health, London, and Visiting Professor, Imperial College, London

**Professor John Stein**, Emeritus Professor of Physiology, University of Oxford

**Professor Sarah Tabrizi**, Professor of Clinical Neurology, Honorary Consultant Neurologist, University College London

**Professor Dame Janet Thornton DBE FRS**, Director of EMBL-EBI and EMBL Senior Scientist, European Molecular Biology Laboratory - European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI)

**Professor Antonio Vidal-Puig**, Professor of Molecular Nutrition and Metabolism; Honorary Consultant in Metabolic Medicine, University of Cambridge

**Professor Hywel Williams CBE**, Foundation Professor in Dermato-Epidemiology at the University of Nottingham and Chair of the NIHR Health Technology Assessment Commissioning Board

**Professor Julie Williams FLSW**, Professor of Neuropsychological Genetics and Head of Neurodegeneration Research, Cardiff University and Chief Scientific Adviser for Wales

**Dr Douglas Winton**, Senior Group Leader, Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute, University of Cambridge

**Professor William Wisden**, Chair in Molecular Neuroscience, Imperial College London