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The John Dolphin Fellowship Scheme: Three Years on .....

by Dr Greg Jonas, Chair of the John Dolphin Fellowship Scheme and Treasurer of The Chromatographic Society

John Dolphin was a long-serving member of the Executive Committee of The Chromatographic Society in the 1980's including being Chairman from 1985 to 1987. Following his untimely death in 2007 his family formed the 'John Dolphin Trust' in his memory to benefit a range of charitable activities. The Chromatographic Society was honoured to receive a donation of £50000 from the 'John Dolphin Trust' in 2009 to be used 'towards the sponsorship of students undertaking their PhDs'.

This request is entirely in keeping with John's outlook on separation science. In the early-1990's John was responsible for establishing the Hypersil 'Young Chromatographer of the Year' award. The Executive Committee took the decision to create a fellowship scheme bearing John's name and use the donation to provide support for PhD/DPhil students at universities in the United Kingdom to attend and present part of their work at a major overseas conference in separation sciences. Students must either be working in the area of separation science or be able to demonstrate a significant use of chromatography or separation science in their work. Each application for a 'John Dolphin Fellowship' must be supported by a letter of endorsement by the applicant's academic supervisor and are reviewed by members of the Executive Committee. Successful applicants are provided with an appropriate contribution towards the cost of attendance (i.e. accommodation, registration, travel) at their selected conference. They are asked to acknowledge receipt of a 'John Dolphin Fellowship' from the Society in their presentations or on their posters in order to promote the scheme. Furthermore, subject to conditions of disclosure with other interested parties, copies of their presentations or posters are placed on the Society's web-site to enable members of the community of separation sciences as a whole to view their work.

Pictured (left to right): Harry Richie, John Dolphin, John Knox and Mike Cooke at a Hypersil 'Young Chromatographer of the Year' meeting.

The scheme began in 2010 and, to date, the Society has awarded eleven fellowships. In each of these applications the recipient has received over 70% of the cost of attendance (i.e. accommodation, registration and travel) at their chosen conference. These have ranged from a contribution of £460 to enable one student to travel from the University of the West of Scotland to Liverpool for an international conference to another contribution of £1210 for a student from the University of London to travel to an international conference in Japan. In the latter case we were pleased to be informed that the student had received a prize from the conference organising committee for his poster. Other students have been supported in their attendance at conferences in Italy and the USA With appropriate investment of the donation and possible matching of our contribution with those from other interested parties it is hoped that the 'John Dolphin Fellowship Scheme' will be available for a minimum of fifteen years.

The Chromatographic Society welcomes applications for funding from this scheme. Further details of the application process can be obtained from our web-site www.chromsoc.com.

PROOF

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Recipients of a John Dolphin Fellowship:

Thomas Wray	**Kevin Skinley**	**Laura Clewes**	**Saowalak Whungsinsujarit**	**Luke Whiley**
University of Liverpool	University of Liverpool	University of Liverpool	King's College London	King's College London
34th International Symposium on Capillary Chromatography and the 7th GCxGC Symposium	34th International Symposium on Capillary Chromatography and the 7th GCxGC Symposium	34th International Symposium on Capillary Chromatography and the 7th GCxGC Symposium	22nd International Symposium on Chirality	IUPAC International Congress on Analytical Sciences 2011 (ICAS2011)
June 2010	June 2010	June 2010	July 2010	May 2011
Riva del Garda, Italy	Riva del Garda, Italy	Riva del Garda, Italy	Sapparo, Japan	Kyoto, Japan
'Dynamic Field Gradient Focussing'	'Computer Modelling of High Performance Liquid Chromatography Column Packings'	'Synthesis of bi-functionalised mesoporous silica for high-performance liquid chromatography'	'Evaluation of a novel monolithic chiral stationary phase based upon S-2-(1-naphthyl) ethylamine using HPLC'.	'Plasma Biomakers in Alzheimer's Disease: A Metabonomic Approach'
Panagiotis Vorkas	**Samantha Drake**	**Nicola Gray**	**James Heaton**	**Agnes Funa**
Imperial College	University of West of Scotland	King's College London	King's College London	King's College London
American Society of Mass Spectrometry (ASMS) conference on Mass Spectrometry and Allied Topics	Chirality 2011: 23rd International Symposium on Chiral Discrimination	38th International Symposium on High Performance Liquid Phase Separations and Related Techniques (HPLC 2012)	38th International Symposium on High Performance Liquid Phase Separations and Related Techniques (HPLC 2012)	4th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress
June 2011	July 2011	June 2012	June 2012	August 2012
Denver, Colorado, USA	Liverpool, UK	Anaheim, California, USA	Anaheim, California, USA	Prague, Czech Rebublic
'UPLC-MS Metabolic Profiling for Risk Stratification of Stroke in Human Carotid Atherosclerosis'	'The Simultaneous Chiral Separation of Methylamphetamine and Common Precursors Using Gas Chromatography/ Mass Spectrometry'	'Comparison of reversed-phase and hydrophilic interaction liquid chromatographic for the quantification of ephedrines using high resolution accurate mass spectrometry'	'Comparison of reversed-phase and hydrophilic interaction liquid chromatography for the separation of ephedrines in doping control analysis'	'Development of hydrophilic interaction liquid chromatography (HILIC) stationary phases in monolithic capillary formats'

Solutions for Low Abundance Compound Analysis

The analysis of low abundance, basic or naturally occurring sensitive compounds presents particular challenges and difficulties for the chromatographer. The surface of even high quality standard glass vials will contain hydroxyl (silanol) groups that will deprotonate in sample diluents (such as water). These deprotonated hydroxyl groups can result in adsorption of basic compounds, changes in sample solution pH and hydrolyzation of susceptible compounds, potentially making some sample components undetectable and quantitation unreliable. Coating or cleaning the glass surface may improve the situation, but does not eliminate it altogether. Reduced Surface Activity (RSA) glass vials from **MicroSolv Technology Corporation** have been specifically developed for working with low abundance and sensitive analytes. The proprietary manufacturing process used in producing these vials virtually eliminates all silanol (hydroxyl) groups on the glass surface. This in turn minimises any adsorption of analytes to the glass wall, avoiding loss of sample and reducing inconsistent quantitation. RSA vials have ultra-low levels of surface metal ions, making them an ideal choice for sensitive LC-MS/MS as well as GC-MS analyses. **For further information on RSA vials, email Hichrom Ltd at: technical@hichrom.co.uk or Tel: 0118 930 3660 or contact MicroSolv at www.mtc-usa.com.**