



**Royal
Pharmaceutical
Society**
of Great Britain

1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN

Tel: 020 7572 2335

Fax: 020 7572 2503

News release

Embargoed: 00.01 27 July 2007

CARDIFF & NOTTINGHAM TO HOST ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS FOR 2008

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (RPSGB) is pleased to announce the two Schools of Pharmacy that will be hosting an Academic Excellence Award in 2008.

Cardiff University will host an award for *Detection of lipopolysaccharide pyrogens by molecularly-imprinted polymers*, with supervision from Dr Chris Allender, Dr Mark Gumbleton, Professor Stephen Denyer and Dr J.Y. Maillard.

University of Nottingham will host an award for *Selective inhibitors for nuclear receptors: an alternative to anti-hormone therapies*, with supervision from Professor David Heery.

Re-launched in 2006, the Academic Excellence Awards are designed to increase the number of pharmacists who enter and stay in academia as a career by providing funding to enable exceptional pharmacists and pharmacy graduates to undertake PhD training. The scheme promotes the important role played by members of the academic workforce in developing and leading the profession of pharmacy.

Of 23 applications for the awards, the two successful schools were selected using a process of peer review by a panel of pharmacy academics.

Professor Stephen Denyer, Head of the Welsh School of Pharmacy, Cardiff University, said:

“The Welsh School of Pharmacy is delighted to have its research training recognised through the award of a studentship funded through the RPSGB Academic Excellence Award scheme.

More follows.../

The student will join a multidisciplinary environment where our research is directed towards practical application for patient benefit.”

Professor Saul Tendler, Head of the School of Pharmacy, University of Nottingham, said:

"I was thrilled to learn that we have been successful in this prestigious competition. Winning such an award adds to our internationally-leading research base and further boosts our buoyant postgraduate research activities. At the same time the award pleasingly provides us with strong and continued links with the RPSGB."

Ann Lewis, RPSGB Secretary and Registrar, and Chair of the Academic Excellence Awards Panel, said:

“Pharmacy is entering a period of great change and development. At this time it is fundamental that we continue to encourage the best pharmacists and pharmacy graduates to continue into postgraduate research and training, ensuring the brightest possible future for the profession. The two successful schools were selected, in part, for the excellent research environment and supervisory experience they will provide to researchers choosing an academic career path.”

Ends

**For media enquiries please contact the
Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain’s Public Relations Unit
020 7572 2335 / 2653**

Notes to editors:

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (RPSGB) is the regulatory and professional body for pharmacists in England, Scotland and Wales. The primary objective of the RPSGB is to lead, regulate and develop the pharmacy profession.

Full details of the Academic Excellence Award scheme for 2008 (now closed) are available online at <http://www.rpsgb.org/societyfunctions>.

The RPSGB recognises the important role played by members of our academic workforce in developing and leading the profession of pharmacy. The RPSGB, like the Wellcome Trust and other funding bodies, recognises how important it is for registered healthcare professionals to be part of the wider academic workforce that teaches and conducts research in health-related fields.

The Academic Excellence Award scheme for 2009 funding will be launched at the earlier time of January 2008, the closing date for project applications will be in mid-March 2008.

For further details on the Academic Excellence Award scheme please contact Nana Clarke on 020 7572 2275 or email nana.clarke@rpsgb.org.