

# BSDB

# Newsletter

British Society for Developmental Biology

[www.bsdb.org](http://www.bsdb.org)

Summer 2011

Vol. 32, No. 1

2nd joint meeting of the  
**B**ritish and **F**rench  
Societies for **D**evelopmental **B**iology

SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE DE BIOLOGIE DU DÉVELOPPEMENT **sfbd**  
**BSDB**  
BRITISH SOCIETY FOR DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY

**Nice, France**  
September 3-6, 2011

**Organizers:**  
Florence Besse (Nice, F)  
Christian Braendle (Nice, F)  
Stefan Hoppler (Aberdeen, UK)  
Thomas Lamonerie (Nice, F)  
Pierre Léopold (Nice, F)  
Andrea Munsterberg (Norwich, UK)  
Stéphane Noselli (Nice, F)  
Pascal Théron (Nice, F)

The BSDB Autumn Meeting 2011 is being held jointly with The French Society for Developmental Biology, in Nice, France

**Also in this issue:**

- a perspective on taking a post-doc position abroad
- Waddington medal winner: Christopher Wylie

# Travel to New Dimensions

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## Editorial

As summer is upon us our thoughts turn to travel. In this issue, we hear about plans for a move to Japan and dates for the diary for a trip to the French Riviera (sun, sea, sand and science).

Stephen Freeman, currently at UCL London, writes about his thoughts and preparations on taking up a new post-doctoral position at the RIKEN, Kobe, Japan.

This year the BSDB Autumn meeting is formed by the second Joint meeting of the British and French societies for Developmental Biology and will be held in Nice France September 3-6 2011. This meeting is not specifically themed and will

cover a broad range of topics in Developmental Biology. The early bird registration deadline is 7<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

I am always happy to receive ideas from BSDB members on how the society can best serve you and advance the broad spectrum of Developmental Biology study in the UK.

*Malcolm Logan,*

*mlogan@nimr.mrc.ac.uk*

## Contents

Editorial	3
Chair's letter	4
News	5
Treasurer's report	6
Travel Grants	7
BSDB Autumn Meeting	8
BSDB Meetings	9
Graduate students page	10
Post-doc column	11-12
Waddington medal winner;Chris Wylie	13-15
CoB	16
Books to review	17
BSDB committee	18
Back page	19

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### **Help us spread the word**

*Please print out a copy of this newsletter and leave it in a strategic place, such as your coffee room or staff room.*

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### **Cover image**

*The BSDB Autumn meeting will be held in Nice, France.*

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## From the Chair



This year saw the joint BSDB/BSCB membership moving away from our familiar Spring Meeting haunt on Gibbet Hill and instead congregating at the University of Kent, overlooking the picturesque cathedral town of Canterbury. The Spring get-together was somewhat derailed by an unanticipated clash with the Royal Wedding. The extended May Day Bank Holiday weekend, on the heels of Easter, tempted some folk into taking longer than normal holiday. Nonetheless we had a good turn-out and a very lively meeting ensued. The first afternoon was given over to the Graduate Student Symposium, ably organized by our two student representatives, and kindly chaired by Nancy Papalopolou. As is traditional the main meeting kicked off with back-to-back lectures from our respective Plenary Lecturers. Mark Krasnow (Stanford) gave a beautiful explanation of lung morphogenesis and the branching patterns that generate the final 3 D architecture. Graham Warren (Vienna) followed with an in-depth explanation of biogenesis of the Golgi apparatus.

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*"It's now 10 years since the developmental biology community lost Rosa Beddington and she is sadly missed by all of us. We remember and celebrate Rosa's contributions every year on the occasion of the Beddington Medal lecture, awarded for the best PhD in the previous year"*

The afternoon I enjoy the most at the Spring meeting is when I have the pleasure of introducing the two BSDB medalists. It's now 10 years since the developmental biology community lost Rosa Beddington and she is sadly missed by all of us. We remember and celebrate Rosa's contributions every year on the occasion of the Beddington Medal lecture, awarded for the best PhD in the previous year. It's always a difficult decision for the committee to decide from the list of very worthy nominees. This year's winner was Carlos Carmona Fontaine, who did his PhD work in Roberto Mayor's lab at UCL. Carlos gave a well prepared and highly entertaining talk about the migratory behavior of neural crest cells and the role of contact inhibition, using lots of great cartoons, models and animations to illustrate his concepts. He also included audio aids – a first for the Beddington lecture! He got a deserving and extended round of applause, much to the delight of his proud parents who were in the audience. This year's mystery winner of the Waddington Medal was Chris Wylie.

Chris gave an outstanding talk, packed with amusing personal anecdotes and sage advice for junior colleagues. On Friday the conference organizers managed to organize giant screens outside the lecture hall, so everyone could get a glimpse (should they so wish!) of the big event.

Our thanks go to Juan-Pablo Couso and Chris Thompson the BSDB scientific organizers for putting together a great line-up of speakers and workshops. I'd also like to thank Hayden Selvadurai for all his contributions to the Society. Hayden has been very energetic and has organized the Student symposium at the Spring meetings, as well as numerous other activities (quizzes, pub crawls etc), but is stepping down at the end of this year as he's writing up his PhD studies. We wish him all the very best for his future career.

I thought I'd finish up with a big plug for our society – I hope I can enlist your help to recruit (aka press gang) new post-docs and graduate students joining your labs in the coming months to join the BSDB. It's easy to do, the membership dues are very modest, and are far outweighed by the potential rewards in terms of travel grants, networking opportunities and student poster prize competitions (don't forget our first Prize is a free trip to the SDB meeting in the US). Our next meeting is at the end of the summer, together with our colleagues from the French Developmental Society, and will be held in Nice. Check out the website and sign up to come along! Plans are already well in place for our next joint meeting and Spring 2012, which sees us returning to our Warwick venue.

*Liz Robertson*



## News

This years Waddington medal was awarded to Chris Wylie who is currently Director of the Division of Developmental Biology at Children's Hospital in Cincinnati. Chris was presented with the medal at the Spring meeting in Canterbury. Read more about Chris's career achievements on page 13 and on the Node <http://thenode.biologists.com/awards-presented-at-this-years-bscb-bsdb-spring-meeting-in-canterbury/>

The Beddington medal, awarded for the best PhD thesis in developmental biology, was won by Carlos Carmona Fontaine. Carlos carried out his PhD work in the laboratory of Roberto Mayor at UCL. An interview with Carlos has been posted on the Node <http://thenode.biologists.com/interview-with-beddington-medal-winner-carlos-carmona-fontaine/>

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Visit:  
<http://thenode.biologists.com/>

*"..we invite societies, such as the BSDB, to use the Node to share news from their local community with the rest of the world, and to reach out to our global readership.."*

The logo for 'The Node' features the word 'The' in a small font above 'NODE' in a larger, bold font. The 'O' in 'NODE' is stylized with a green circular element.

## Financial report Spring 2011

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*"In an effort to improve the service the Society offers, we have recently established on-line banking for UK-based members"*

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### **Are you paying your fair share?**

*We still have a 'hard core' of members who are paying less than they should.*

*Please check your standing order today and update if necessary!*

IT In last financial year the society has seen a significant improvement in its financial situation while maintaining its core business of supporting excellent meetings and enabling many junior scientists to gain experience in developmental biology.

Over the course of 2009-10 the society provided 74 BSDB grants to help people attend BSDB meetings (total value £25910) and 96 Company of Biologists/BSDB travel grants (total value £25860) to enable scientists to attend overseas meetings and training courses, as well as giving support for a number of smaller developmental biology meetings (£1700). The total amounts given out were slightly lower than budgeted, reflecting both a slightly lower take up of applications for the Autumn 2010 meeting and a lower rate of application in the autumn of 2009 for CoB awards. The application rate for CoB awards has now returned to a healthy level and CoB have very kindly allowed us to transfer the small under payout (c. £1.5K) to the following year's budget.

The Society has been involved in two main meetings over the last 12 months (Autumn Meeting Oxford 2010, BSDB/BSCB Spring meeting Kent 2011). The Oxford meeting finished slightly in the red and the Spring meeting in the black, so overall our conferences have been financially sustainable over the last year. This has been to a significant degree due to the success of the organisers in raising sponsorship funds, allowing us to maintain registration costs at a reasonable level, despite the ever-increasing costs charged by the venues.

In addition, the Society's funds received a significant boost from the ISDB meeting in Edinburgh. This is an excellent outcome and I would (again) like to acknowledge the hard work of all those involved in organizing this meeting, especially Mathew Freeman, Guy Tear and Nancy Papalopulu. The surplus provides a vital bedrock for the Society as we move into a potentially difficult financial environment for academic research over of the next few years. Combined with an increase in value of the Society's investments (which essentially follow the vagaries of the stock market), the BSDB is in a good financial position.

With respect to other items on the budget, we are (as ever) deeply thankful to the Company of Biologists. In addition to providing a generous amount for the CoB/BSDB travel grants, they also provide a healthy contribution to the BSDB that (together with the members' subscriptions) allows the Society to function. With respect to costs, on average the total administration and committee costs involved in running the society remain reasonable, representing less than 3% of turnover. In an effort to improve the service the Society offers, we have recently established on-line banking for UK-based members. This has already made the task of tracking payments and membership more effective and will allow the financial side of the Society to keep functioning as banks gradually restrict paper-based (cheque) transactions.

*Andrew Fleming*

*BSDB treasurer*



## Payment option for overseas members

It is possible to pay your subscription by PayPal. This facility is primarily aimed at our overseas members and we do not encourage other members to use this route as it causes us certain problems when it comes to renewal of subscriptions. For those who need to use it, the process is fairly painless and full instructions can be found on our webpage.

<http://www.bms.ed.ac.uk/services/webpace/bsdb/BSDBpaypal.htm>



## Travel grants (Company of Biologists Travel Awards)

### BSDB Spring and Autumn meetings

These are the *only* UK meetings for which there is BSDB support. Grants cover cost of registration (but not conference dinners) and basic travel if funds permit. Generally we are receiving more applications than we can fund in full and preference is given to student members who present posters. BSDB members based abroad are eligible for a contribution (max. £400) to attend our meetings. All applications for travel grants to attend BSDB meetings must be in the hands of the Treasurer by the published deadline.

### Overseas meetings

There is considerable demand for funds to travel to meetings overseas. Applications are collected each month and a decision on awards made at the end of the month with funds awarded according to the remaining budget. To allow us to fund as many applicants as possible we are currently limiting awards to a maximum of £400. Preference is given to members presenting work at the meetings.

### Practical courses

The BSDB will also provide funds up to a maximum of £500 for members to attend courses or to visit laboratories overseas. These applications are considered alongside those for overseas meetings.

## Subscription information

Full members           **£35** per annum  
Student members       **£15** per annum

I process the applications as rapidly as I can but it can be 6–8 weeks after you submit an application before you are notified of your award. Please note that I do not make funds available to attend meetings that have already taken place when I come to consider the applications. Please bear this in mind and submit your application at least two months before the start date of the meeting.

### Applying for a travel grant

Members should complete a Travel Grant Application form and send it to the Treasurer. Forms can be downloaded from the BSDB website: [www.bsdb.org](http://www.bsdb.org).

Applications for overseas meetings are advised to be submitted 3–4 months in advance so that the BSDB contribution can be used as a lever to prise the rest of the money from other sources. Grants will NOT be awarded in arrears.

**Please note:** Nobody will be awarded more than one travel grant per year for an overseas trip. No more than two people from one department or one person from a group will be awarded a grant to a particular meeting. Also, due to our charitable status, the purpose of any award must be clearly identifiable as Developmental Biology

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### **Hurry!**

***The Deadline for Early bird registration for the BSDB Autumn Meeting is 7<sup>th</sup> July 2011***

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### **Warning!**

*Only members paying the correct subscription to the Society will be eligible for a Travel Grant*

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### **Louie Hamilton Fund**

*There is a small amount of money available from the Louie Hamilton Fund to provide travel support for handicapped members. Applicants should contact the Treasurer.*

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2nd joint meeting of the  
**British and French**  
Societies for **D**evelopmental **B**iology



**Nice, France**  
**September 3-6, 2011**

**Organizers:**

**Florence Besse (Nice, F)**  
**Christian Braendle (Nice, F)**  
**Stefan Hoppler (Aberdeen, UK)**  
**Thomas Lamonerie (Nice, F)**  
**Pierre Léopold (Nice, F)**  
**Andrea Munsterberg (Norwich, UK)**  
**Stéphane Noselli (Nice, F)**  
**Pascal Théron (Nice, F)**

More details on the program, venue and registration are available online:

<http://www.sfb.fr/meeting/>





## BSDB Autumn Meeting 2011

3-6 September 2011

Saint-Jean d'Angely campus, Nice, France

A Joint Spring Meeting the French Society for Developmental Biology (FSDB).  
BSDB organisers: Andrea Munsterberg and Stefan Hoppler  
See poster on p8.

**Keynote lectures by Cheryll Tickle, Oliver Pourquie, Olivier Hobert and Robin Lovell-Badge**

**Evolution and Development**  
Enrico Coen Ralf Sommer

**Neural Development**  
Corinne Houart, Dietmar Schmucker.

**Cellular Processes**

Carsten Janke, Erez Raz, Thomas Lecuit.

**Signalling and Differentiation**

Sophie Creuzet, Thierry LePage, Kate Storey.

**Organogenesis**

Malcolm Logan, James Sharpe

**Polarities and Borders**

Vincent Mirouse, Benedicte Sanson

Talks will also be selected from abstracts.

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### **Latest meetings news**

*Check the BSDB website for latest meetings updates and to submit details of meetings to be advertised to members.*  
<http://www.bsdb.org>

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## BSDB Spring Meeting 2012

15-18 April 2012. University of Warwick , UKL

The BSDB Spring meeting will be a joint meeting with the BSCB and the Japanese Society for Developmental Biology (JSDB)

Keynote speakers: Denis Duboule and Richard McIntosh

BSDB organisers: Kim Dale and Malcolm Logan.

The meeting will cover exciting and wide-ranging topics in developmental biology and will feature a number of outstanding scientists, international experts in their fields as well as opportunities for participants to be selected for platform

### **Ideas for a meeting?**

*A major task of the BSDB Committee is to host high quality scientific meetings. We welcome suggestions for future topics for meetings or for a half-day themed session at the Spring Symposium. Contact James Briscoe*

## Future BSDB meetings

**BSDB Autumn 2012**

**The Molecular and Cellular Basis of Regeneration and Tissue Repair**

St Catherine's College Oxford

Organisers: Enrique Amaya and Paul Martin.

**For the latest and most comprehensive listing of upcoming meetings go to:**

**<http://thenode.biologists.com/events/>**



## The Graduate Students' Section

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**Your New Graduate student representative is....**

**Jorge Beira**  
*jbeira@nimr.mrc.ac.uk*

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**BSDBook**  
Visit the 'BSDB graduate student group' at *Facebook.com* to keep up to date about student events

The position of graduate student representative is in its very nature transient. Time marches on and the graduate student discovers that the end of their studies approaches fast. This is why I am taking on the role of Graduate Representative for the BSDB, as Hayden Selvadurai finishes his PhD.

I was happily surprised with the Graduate Symposium at the BSCB-BSDB Spring Meeting, as well as the social activities organized by the graduate representatives of both Societies. I had a great chance to get to know several students at the meeting, which made me realize that the interactions between students are crucial to establish contact and share ideas, which can have a positive impact on the science we do on top of simply being fun!

I hope to contribute to keep this atmosphere at the Meeting and all year round if possible. I hope to achieve this by promoting contact between BSDB student members and serving to represent the students' views in the BSDB Committee.

During the last couple of months I've been fortunate to be able to count on Hayden's experience to guide me in this role, and I am keen to follow his enthusiasm on promoting the participation of Graduate students in the Society's activities. I am looking forward to maintaining the Graduate symposium on the Spring meeting, as this event enables closer discussion among students.

Your active participation in the BSDB is strongly encouraged. A good way to keep up to date with events and opportunities is The Node – 'a community website for

developmental biologists' (<http://thenode.biologists.com/>). Here you can find news about recent publications as well as comments, information about meetings and conferences, course and meeting reports, and many other general topics that can be of interest for a developmental biologist.

You can also join the "BSDB graduate student Facebook group" (easily found by searching through Facebook), which can work as a forum for everyone to keep in touch and share ideas or comments.

If you have ideas about information you would like to see in this section, or if you want to produce something, please feel free to get in touch with me with questions, comments or suggestions. This also applies if there is anything you would like your student representative to raise for you at the Committee meetings. I look forward to hearing from you!

*Jorge Beira*  
*jbeira@nimr.mrc.ac.uk*

## A change could do you good.

A career as a post-doc can be a lonely one at times, and can feel quite different from those halcyon, care-free days spent as a postgraduate student.

Becoming all consumed with your research, and feeling eager to prove your worth to peers can lead to a “tunnel vision” mentality that allows days to sneak by with only minimal contact with anyone else. Indeed, over the last 3 years I have often found myself embedded in a small basement room with just a cryostat and the same set of podcasts (I know them by heart now) for company. As if this wasn't bad enough, there's the looming feeling that each decision you take is infinitely more crucial than the last. Which project should I pursue? Where should I pursue it? And who should I try to convince to pursue it with me? The desire to find your own niche, to balance getting your work to a publishable state whilst gathering some preliminary morsels to fuel the next grant or fellowship proposal is enough to drive most people towards insanity.

Of course, it's not all bad. In fact, I happen to think most of it is really very good. Post-doc life gives you increasing control over your research, and with that comes the freedom to formulate and test your own ideas, and, once you have it, to find the right place for your data in amongst everyone else's. It gives you enviable opportunities to travel – taking your research to foreign

shores where you will be introduced to new practical techniques and theoretical perspectives. Before you know it, you've got some more (seemingly) good ideas, and the whole process begins once again. It is a career that can offer almost limitless growth.

One of the keys to this growth, I think, is travel. Or perhaps more accurately, change. A change of scene can allow a person to develop, experience new ways of doing things, make new friends, and even strengthen the bond between friends that were left behind. It is a useful tool to prevent any career from stagnating, but for scientists – in particular young scientists at the beginning of their research career – I think it is essential. I see these early post-doc years as a time to absorb as much information as possible that will help me to run my own lab in the future. Naturally this includes keeping on top of the literature and expanding my repertoire of lab techniques, but equally important is learning the skills required to manage a lab in a way that will get the best out of the people who are working in it. Often overlooked pastoral and administrative skills, simple things like organising group retreats, or even creating easy to understand plasmid databases – these “housekeeping” skills are important additions to a post-docs arsenal if they want to run a well oiled lab of their own. And the best way to develop these skills is to expose yourself to a




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**Stephen Freeman**

*UCL Ear Institute  
London*

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*“In the coming months I hope to share my experiences of working as a post-doc abroad with you, and would like to hear how they compare with your own experiences.”*

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*“A change of scene can allow a person to develop, experience new ways of doing things, make new friends, and even strengthen the bond between friends that were left behind.”*

range of different working cultures so that you can see, first hand, the things that work and the things that don't.

Having just finished my first post-doc in London, I am about to start my second at the Riken Centre for Developmental Biology, in Japan. It is an exciting time and I feel very privileged to have the opportunity to work in a new country, whilst exploring a new city and experiencing a new culture. In the coming months I hope to share my experiences of working as a post-doc abroad with you, and would like to hear how they compare with your own experiences too. Since I found out that I am going to work in Japan, I have already noticed some changes. I am more motivated and I am enjoying my research more than ever before. So the benefits of change have started before I've even got there. It's no secret that a career in research is hard work – it is a competitive world where only a few get to run their own lab and really develop their own research themes. It is a career where it can be very easy to get stuck in a rut. A little bit of change might help you to avoid the quagmire.

*Stephen Freeman*

*stevefreeman5@gmail.com*



## Waddington medal 2011 winner, Chris Wylie

The Waddington Medal lecture is always one of the highlights of the BSDB spring meeting. The medal is awarded for outstanding “outstanding research performance as well as services to the developmental biology community”, and this years winner, Chris Wylie, more than ticked the box in both categories.

Chris’s research has always been characterized by its extreme rigour and beautiful experimental design, coupled with careful interpretation. Chris’s long held interest is in how cells acquire different fates during development and how this is related to positional cues in the embryo. His early work in frog included a seminal study asking whether cells of different fates can home to their correct tissue when given a choice. His more recent work, mainly with Janet Heasman (who is also his wife and with whom he shares a lab), has focused on the role of maternal RNA determinants of cell fate and polarity. They were the first to use sophisticated methods for knocking down expression of both maternal and zygotic messages for a given gene, allowing them to do real loss of function experiments in *Xenopus*, and an approach subsequently adopted by many labs worldwide. Over the course of his career he’s also dabbled in many different model organisms, including the chick during his PhD work and more recently has published beautiful work on the mechanism of primordial germ cell migration in mouse.

One of my more interesting annual challenges is unearthing some background information and little known facts about the Medal winner. Chris is the son of a coal miner turned professional soldier, and had the good fortune to spend most of his formative years in Kenya, where he attended Mombassa primary

school, and enjoyed lots of sports and the big out-doors - as he told me “a life without fences”. The big out-doors in East Africa does of course bring with it associated dangers, including a near miss with a very large and angry conger eel while skinny dipping in a tide pool with his school mates. Surviving these and other adventures unscathed, he returned to the UK for secondary school to the somewhat less romantic setting of Sidcup Grammar school where his nick-name was “Darkest Africa”. Chris was set on becoming a doctor and went straight from school to read Medicine at UCL but did so well in first year exams he was invited to do a BSc. He got a First and was diverted yet again from medicine by his fascination with morphogenesis deciding to capitalize on the opportunity to do a PhD with Ruth Bellairs. On finishing his PhD project he was promptly offered, and accepted, a lecturer position.

Chris’s career progressed steadily in the wake of numerous publications, many of which were collaborations with Janet. He spent many of his formative years at St Georges rising to become a Professor in 1985, but moved in 1988 to Cambridge as the Quick Chair, where he was one of the founding members of the Wellcome Trust /Cancer Research Campaign Institute for Cell and Developmental Biology (now the Gurdon Institute). However in 1994 Chris was lured away from Cambridge by the University of Minnesota to take a leadership position at the Medical School aimed at building a developmental biology programme incorporating basic scientists and clinicians with research interests in organogenesis. In 2000 Chris accepted the Directorship of the Division of Developmental Biology at Children’s Hospital in Cincinnati, where he has remained ever since.



Chris Wylie

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*“ past and current colleagues commented on his amazing manual dexterity and deep scholarship, and his truly inspirational leadership.”*

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*“Development did more than provide a wonderful vehicle for publication; it also raised the scientific standards of the field. Development’s success has been very financially rewarding for the Company of Biologists, who in turn have used the revenues to support UK developmental biology via their continued and generous support of the BSDB.”*

After almost 10 years in the States Chris decided to become an American citizen, which, as some of you may know, requires intensive immersion and studying of US constitution history and culture. Indeed his lecture reflected his mastery of the US Presidents of the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, cleverly using photographs of them, together with their UK Prime Minister counterparts, to bench mark the various points of his career. In spite of living in the Mid West for the past 17 years, I learned from Janet that Chris has retained a decidedly English taste in food with fruit cake, and crumble and custard ranking amongst his favorites.

While science has always been Chris’s passion, he’s a man with many other interests. In his younger years he was an avid car enthusiast and in the late 70’s he built his own car – described affectionately by a former lab member I quote: “as a bizarre cross between a beach buggy and a golf cart, but beauty is in the eye of the beholder and he was inordinately proud of his creation”. Sport has featured heavily throughout his life. Chris was an outstanding badminton player during his student days. As a PI he was well known for distracting his post-docs with marathon lunchtime table tennis sessions, or if they refused to pick-up a bat, coerced them into competitive coin-rolling exercises in the basement corridors (Yorkie bars, another favourite food stuff, being the betting currency). Sadly he’s retired from the more energetic racket sports in favour of golf and the even more restful sport of bridge. Chris also keeps his hand eye coordination up to scratch by playing Nintendo.

His former lab members also wanted me to be sure to mention how much everyone enjoyed working in the Wylie/Heasman lab. Over the course of his career Chris has mentored many tens of students and post-docs, and he gets high praise from past and current colleagues who commented on his amazing manual dexterity and deep scholarship, and his truly inspirational leadership. In spite of his considerable administrative responsibilities Chris leads by example, and still manages to work at the bench most days.

The Waddington Medal also acknowledges services to the developmental biology community. Although he “defected” to the US many years ago, few other individuals have done more for the UK developmental biology community than Chris. To quote one of his nominators “His legacy is to be seen on every successful developmental biologist’s CV. In 1987, Chris took the solid but rather un-exciting ‘*Journal of Embryology and Experimental Morphology*’ and re-launched it as a new journal ‘*Development*’, becoming THE leading developmental biology journal worldwide”. *Development* did more than provide a wonderful vehicle for publication; it also raised the scientific standards of the field. Development’s success has been very financially rewarding for the Company of Biologists, who in turn have used the revenues to support UK developmental biology via their continued and generous support of the BSDB, and indeed this meeting. All this was the result of Chris’s vision, passion and creativity. Chris remained the Editor-in-Chief of *Development* for a remarkable 15 years.

Chris's lecture was a tour de force and he gave an extremely entertaining and personal perspective of his long and illustrious career. He concluded his lecture with some of his most recent research directions, including unpublished work on the vertebrate spinal column and the mystery of what happens to the notochord in post-natal life.

*Liz Robertson*





THE COMPANY OF  
**Biologists**

## BSDB Member Benefits

### 40% OFF\* Individual Subscriptions to:

*Development, Journal of Cell Science and  
The Journal of Experimental Biology*

2011 Discount Subscription Rates can be found at:  
[biologists.org/subscriptions](http://biologists.org/subscriptions)

The Company also publishes *Disease Models & Mechanisms*  
which will be Open Access from 2011.  
[dmm.biologists.org](http://dmm.biologists.org)

#### Grants and Travelling Fellowships

A range of Travel and Meeting Grants are available to  
members of the ASCB, details of which can be found at:  
[biologists.com/cob\\_grants.html](http://biologists.com/cob_grants.html)

#### Workshops

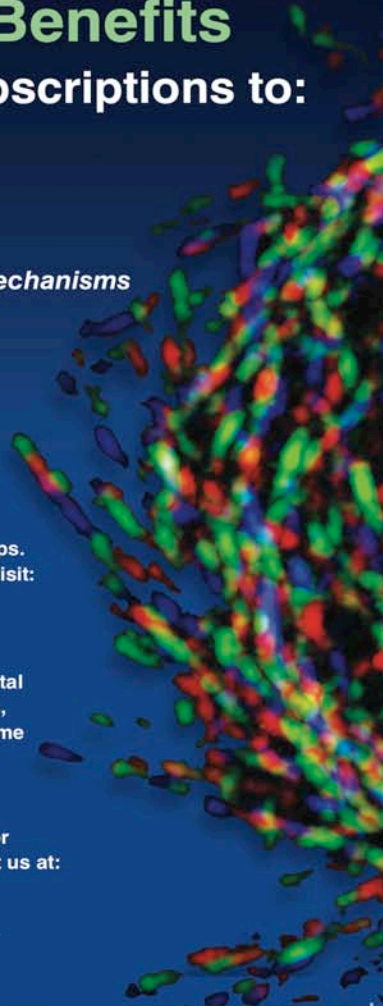
The Company has recently launched a series of Workshops.  
To suggest a topic or apply to attend a future workshop, visit:  
[workshops.biologists.com](http://workshops.biologists.com)

#### the Node

A place for scientists to share news from the developmental  
biology community, to debate and discuss relevant topics,  
or just to see what's new. It's FREE and anyone can become  
involved by posting or commenting.  
[thenode.biologists.com](http://thenode.biologists.com)

If you would like to take advantage of our discount offer or  
services please visit our website [biologists.org](http://biologists.org) or contact us at:  
[sales@biologists.com](mailto:sales@biologists.com)

\* T&Cs apply. Discount available on Individual subscriptions only (not for library use).  
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## Reviewing a book for the BSDB

Suggestions for future book reviews are always welcome. If you know a book you think should be reviewed, please contact the Editor. Reviewers receive a free copy of the book for their trouble.

Here are some possibilities:

### From CUP

Cancer Stem Cells  
W. L. Farrar  
9780521895283

The Neural Crest, Second Edition  
N. Le Douarin, C. Kalcheim  
9780521122252

Shoot Apex and Leaf Growth (first published 1975)  
R. F. Williams  
9780521112871

### From OUP

Doing Science  
Design, Analysis, and Communication of Scientific  
Research  
Second Edition  
Ivan Valiela  
978-0-19-538573-1

### BSDB Discount from CSHL Press

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press is offering a 15% discount on titles for BSDB members. In order to take advantage of this, visit their special offers page (<http://www.scionpublishing.com/special/index.php>).

Recent titles from CSHL Press:

Statistics at the Bench: A Step-by-Step  
Handbook for Biologists  
Martina Bremer  
978-087969857-7

Live Cell Imaging: A Laboratory Manual,  
Second Edition  
Robert Goldman (ed.)  
978-087969893-5

Mouse Hematology: A Laboratory Manual  
Michael P. McGarry, Cheryl, A. Protheroe,  
James J. Lee  
978-087969886-7

Francis Crick: Hunter of Life's Secrets  
Robert Olby  
978-087969798-3

## Journal discounts for members

BSDB member discounts from Elsevier Press:

*Mechanisms of Development* (print): \$120

*Mechanisms of Development + Gene Expression Patterns* (print): \$125

*Developmental Biology* (print): \$380



The main function of the BSDB Committee is to organise our meetings, from deciding on appropriate topics to arranging organisers and venues. If you have any ideas on topics for a good meeting, or on a good venue, don't hesitate to convey them to James Briscoe (or another committee member). The officers of the Society will be happy to answer any questions relating to their specific subjects.

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